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TORONTO • MONDAY OCTOBER 6 2008

metronews.ca

Odd Jobs pg 18

Diane Peters finds a Brantford hockey star

Disposable coffee cups next target?

WASTE Companies that sell takeout coffee must create their own deposit-return system that keeps disposable cups out of litter and landfill or governments will do it for them, says a waste diversion consultant.

Clarissa Morawski, an environmental advocate who has written extensively on waste policy, said the industry is facing a "paradigm shift" in the way its disposable cups are viewed, littering Toronto's streets and filling garbage cans instead of being recycled.

Morawski said a forward-thinking coffee company could easily use a deposit return system. If gathered in volume, the cups could be taken to a paper recycler, she said.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Election 2008 pg 8

- **Young Liberals mix sex and politics**
- **AdVentures: Mike Tennant**
- **Tories plot counter-attack over economy**

HineSight pg 26

Complaining good for you

Going Green pg 16

Humans put in their place

ShareYourViews

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Run for the Cure

Thinkin[illegible] pink

SAUL PORTO/TOP NEWS

Barbie's Boobetters walk on University Avenue during yesterday's Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation CIBC Run for the Cure. The Toronto event, one of 55 held across Canada, raised $5.1 million. Nationally, some 170,000 people took part. More coverage, pg. 3

Rule changed before listeria crisis: Union

Four months before the Maple Leaf outbreak started claiming lives, Canada's food safety agency quietly dropped its rule requiring meat-processing companies to alert the agency about listeria-tainted meat, a Toronto Star/CBC investigation has found.

Twenty people died as a result of the outbreak last summer and federal meat inspectors and their union say this rule change likely made the country's listeria outbreak far worse than it had to be.

Before April 1, if a company preparing meat for sale to the public had a positive test showing listeria it "would have had to have been, not only brought to the (federal) inspector's attention, but the inspector would have been involved in overseeing the cleanup," says Bob Kingston, head of the union that represents Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) inspectors.

> **"If I walk in as an inspector, the plant doesn't come up to me and say we had positive tests today."** Tom Graham

Kingston and four veteran inspectors interviewed for this story fear the rule change, part of the deregulation of Canada's food safety net, continues to pose a serious threat to public health.

The CFIA confirmed there is currently no onus on companies to alert inspectors about positive bacterial results. The change came as part of a federal decision to allow companies to write their own food safety plans, with federal approval.

"If I walk in as an inspector, the plant doesn't come up to me and say we had positive tests today," said Tom Graham, the food safety agency's national inspection manager. But he says the reporting rule will likely be reinstated as a result of the current federal investigation into the Maple Leaf outbreak.

"That will happen. It's definitely … on the table. There are a number of recommendations that will come from this," Graham said.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Private MRI clinics have few checks, report says

Since the first private MRI clinics opened their doors in Canada 10 years ago, there has been a national explosion of private health facilities with little policing by the federal or provincial governments, a report says.

Across Canada, there are 42 for-profit magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and computed tomography (CT) clinics, 72 private surgical hospitals (excluding cosmetic surgery facilities) and 16 "boutique" physician clinics, the Ontario Health Coalition says in a report, entitled Eroding Public Medicare: Lessons and Consequences for For-Profit Health Care Across Canada, being released today.

Inside these clinics, the health coalition charges they found evidence to suspect 89 possible violations of the Canada Health Act in five provinces — including Ontario. Those violations include extra billing patients for medically necessary services or selling queue-jumping services by paying a fee of thousands of dollars in order to quickly access family doctors and specialists.

"The contention that for-profit health care can exist along with a public system is not true," said Natalie Mehra, the report's author and director of the coalition. "It is a take-away from the public health-care system."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Time

- The health coalition noticed that wait times appear higher in areas with the most privatization as health-care workers stretch their time between hospital and private clinic.

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Cyclist breaks neck near Bronte park
A cyclist broke his neck in a plunge off a ramp on a trail near Bronte Creek Provincial Park yesterday. It was unclear if the man, whom police said may be paralyzed, intended to go off the ramp. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Local

Viva strike continues

York Region commuters will have to continue using regular transit or driving to work today as a strike by the area's 164 Viva bus drivers continues. As of yesterday evening, no talks were scheduled between the drivers and Veolia Transit, a private company that operates the service on behalf of York Region. Viva usually accommodates 35,000 riders daily on five routes. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Tomorrow's Metro

Music

Alanis Morissette talks about her new album Flavors of Entanglement

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Saturday, Oct. 4
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Ontario Pick 3 1 2 3
Ontario Pick 4 9 4 5 1
Encore 2295651
Daily Keno 2, 7, 8, 9, 12, 18, 19, 23, 26, 29, 32, 34, 37, 42, 46, 56, 62, 65, 66, 67
These results are not official.

News in brief

FOUND A 14-year-old girl who vanished Oct. 1 has been found in Edmonton. The girl, from the town of Blackstock, was found in what police are describing as a "drug house," in the company of a 22-year-old man with whom she'd been talking on the Internet. Tyler James White, 22, is charged with abduction and sexual assault. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Run for the Cure raises $5.1 million in Toronto

When Ronnie Peterson finished the Run for the Cure yesterday, he picked up a T-shirt — pink, for breast cancer survivor — and headed to the hospital.

He gave it to his mother-in-law, who was diagnosed in 2006, just five months after her daughter — and Ronnie Peterson's wife, Hayley Peterson — found out about her own breast cancer.

"I lost my wife five weeks ago and her mom has been in the hospital for seven weeks and, in fact, were in the same hospital, North York (General). Her mom was on the fifth floor and Hayley, my wife, was on the third. I'd go up to the fifth floor, get her mother, and wheel her down in a wheelchair with oxygen," Peterson said.

For the past two years, Peterson and his wife had done the run together. This time, he did it with a team of 17 supportive relatives — her wedding ring in his pocket, her picture stuck on their T-shirts.

Together, Peterson's group raised more than $6,000 for breast cancer research, education and outreach — services Peterson said his wife benefited from after her diagnosis and subsequent chemotherapy. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Numbers

- The Toronto event — one of 55 held across the country yesterday — raised roughly $5.1 million, though more will be raised post-race. Nationally, some 170,000 people took part and organizers expect that total to be about $28.5 million.

RENE JOHNSTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Liberal MP Carolyn Bennett lends a hand and hose yesterday at the scene of election-related graffiti at a home in Leaside.

Fear and loathing on campaign trail

26 cases of vandalism reported in ridings

Bizarre and dangerous acts of vandalism have spread into another federal riding in the GTA, with 12 new incidents reported yesterday in Parkdale-High Park.

The latest come on the heels of 14 similar acts of vandalism in the St. Paul's riding, reported to police Saturday.

Toronto police yesterday continued to investigate the acts of vandalism, which include the cutting of brake lines, phone and cable lines as well as graffiti defacing homes and garages. The 26 incidents are likely connected and may have been done by one person since they are so similar in nature, Liberal party insiders suggest. The victims were all Liberal party supporters and had signs on their lawns supporting the Liberals.

Election 2008

"I'm in complete shock. This is something you don't expect to have happen in Canada."
Andrew Krupowicz

"There is this hatred thing that is so upsetting — hatred of Liberals," said Liberal MP for St. Paul's Carolyn Bennett. "There's no other excuse for this in terms of this kind of intimidation. That's what's so upsetting. We don't know who's doing it at all. We just think this is somebody who really is not well."

In Parkdale-High Park, Andrew Krupowicz, who lives on Ronscesvalles Avenue, was horrified to find his car's brake lines were cut Saturday night. On the lawn is a sign supporting Gerard Kennedy, the Liberal candidate in the riding.

"I'm in complete shock. This is something you don't expect to have happen in Canada. We have a democratic system. This could have killed me, my girlfriend and everyone else on the road."

His neighbour, Debra McNevin, was also a victim. A big red "L" was painted on the brick wall of her house, the screen door and the garage door late Saturday. McNevin said she thinks she was targeted because she also has a sign supporting Kennedy on her lawn. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Nuit Blanche

Art fans blanket city

DOWNTOWN A cool fall night didn't deter droves of spectators from experiencing some cool contemporary art throughout Toronto's downtown core Saturday night.

The third annual dusk-to-dawn Scotiabank Nuit Blanche drew would-be art fans from all ages and walks of life to art installations ranging from the sublime to the ridiculous.

According to CBC Radio, no fewer than one million attended between Saturday evening and Sunday morning.

Unlike art forms that stick to one form like painting or sculpture, contemporary art embraces all kinds of media, Lois Andison said. "There is no one discipline anymore." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

News in brief

CRASH Five family members suffered injuries yesterday after being hit head-on by a car going the wrong way on Highway 403 in Mississauga — the third wrong-way crash in two weeks. Police are citing alcohol as a factor in all three crashes. The latest collision happened shortly after 3 a.m. when a Toyota Camry heading east in the westbound lanes of the 403 at Hurontario Street slammed into a Volvo all-wheel-drive vehicle. All five relatives in the Volvo went to hospital, one of them with serious injuries.

TRAPPED A woman underwent brain surgery yesterday after she tripped on streetcar tracks while crossing Spadina Avenue south of College Street and was struck by a streetcar. Police say the 24-year-old woman, who was trapped under the vehicle in the 3:40 a.m. incident, is in critical condition. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

'Exchange Bandit' charged
A 37-year-old man known as the "Exchange Bandit" turned himself in to Toronto police Friday after his picture became widely spread in the media. Kevin John Pinto of Toronto has been charged with 10 counts of robbery committed in the city. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Riding: Parkdale-High Park

A tour through Parkdale-High Park quickly reveals the constituents are divided between support for longtime MPP and Liberal candidate Gerard Kennedy and incumbent MP and NDP candidate Peggy Nash.

Election 2008

Kennedy served as an Ontario member of provincial parliament from 1996 until 2006, when he resigned to run for leadership of the federal Liberal Party. After placing fourth in the second ballot at the leadership convention, he withdrew his candidacy to lend his support to Stéphane Dion.

Nash was voted into Parliament January 2006 and has served the riding since.

The riding covers 16 sq. km, has a population of 102,142 and about 73,000 people are eligible to vote.

ROBYN YOUNG/FOR METRO TORONTO

Peggy Nash
AGE: 57
PARTY: NDP
POSITION: MP for Parkdale-High Park from 2006; former labour negotiator
"What I'm hearing most is concern about the economy. People are obviously worried about the financial situation in the States so they're worried about jobs and their savings, their mortgage. I'm also hearing concern about how our country makes the transition to a green, energy-efficient economy, and there's also the creative economy and I'm hearing a lot of concern from artists and other people about support for the arts."

Gerard Kennedy
AGE: 48
PARTY: Liberal
POSITION: MPP for Parkdale-High Park from 1996 to 2006; Ontario education minister from 2003 to 2006.
"People are not discouraged by Mr. Harper per se; they want to do something about him, and that's the difference between myself and the NDP. I'm very optimistic that we will overcome Mr. Harper by having better things on offer and not just by being against him."

Robert Rishchynski
AGE: 41
PARTY: Green
POSITION: IT manager
"The thing I keep hearing again and again is about how Toronto is going to move forward in terms of infrastructure financing, basically what you would call the 'building our city' category of issues."

Jilian Sawezcko
AGE: 64
PARTY: Conservative
POSITION: Businesswoman
"The Conservatives will protect Canadians by cracking down on weapons offences; protecting victims — too often they are forgotten; (and) cutting down on pollution."

Andrew Borkowski
AGE: 43
PARTY: Christian Heritage Party
POSITION: Pharmacist
"On the issue of abortion, we are the only party to honour the sanctity of life from conception to natural death."

Lorne Gershuny
AGE: 51
PARTY: Marxist-Lenninist Party of Canada
POSITION: Lawyer
"Canada should take a stand to be a force for peace and not participate in the aggressive war the way that it is in Afghanistan."

Terry Parker
AGE: 53
PARTY: Marijuana Party
POSITION: Advocate
"I'm trying to demonstrate that I'm the best shot when it comes to protecting your children and protecting marijuana consumption required for cancer, MS, epilepsy, Alzheimer's, whatever."

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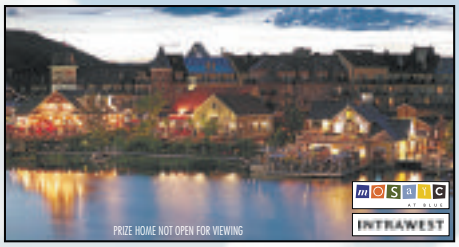

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Toronto rally protests Khadr detention
A week of events intended to make Omar Khadr's detention a federal election issue kicked off yesterday with a rally in Toronto that had an anti-Stephen Harper message. About 100 people gathered outside the U.S. consulate. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada

Candidate gives CPR

Bill Forbes, a municipal election candidate in Halifax, was campaigning on Friday when he was called into an apartment building to perform CPR on a woman who had fainted.

METRO CANADA

B.C. man guilty of murder

Fry convicted of purposely setting house fire that killed five

KRISTEN THOMPSON
Metro Canada

The man accused of setting a house fire that killed a Vancouver family and a friend as they slept has been convicted of five counts of first-degree murder.

Nathan Fry, 20, who was also found guilty of attempted murder, won't be eligible for parole for 25 years.

The jury, which reached its decision yesterday after a four-week B.C. Supreme Court trial, heard how Bolingo Etibako, then 16, woke two years ago to find his house on fire and escaped out a second storey window.

His mother, three younger siblings and girlfriend died.

Crown counsel Kerr Clark said yesterday he knew it was a difficult case for the jurors.

"There's no pleasure that comes from this sentence," he said. "It's always sad to see a man spend the rest of his life in this matter.

"A situation like this doesn't involve winning or losing. There was never a win in this situation."

Defence lawyer Philip Riddell said Fry is understandably disappointed.

"Other decisions in terms of (appeal) options will be determined at a later date."

But a videotape played in court showed Fry admitting to an undercover cop, who Fry thought was an organized crime boss, that he set the fire, and gave detailed information about the crime, including that a torch was used.

RAFE ARNOTT/METRO CANADA

Nathan Fry's mother and brother leave Vancouver court yesterday without speaking to reporters.

The motive

- While Fry maintained his innocence, the Crown alleged he set fire to the home in retaliation for Etibako telling police he was responsible for two earlier stabbings.

Canada's fondness for Facebook rubbing off

Aside from its military and development work, Canada's biggest contribution to the war effort in Afghanistan may well be Tim Hortons coffee.

But it seems Canadians could be responsible for another export that's gaining popularity among Afghans in particular: Facebook.

Once the record holder for the world's largest number of Facebook users per capita, Canada's love of social networking appears to be rubbing off in Afghanistan.

"It is growing rapidly among those Afghans who interact with the international community."
Afghani Facebook user

Although much of the war-torn country faces high rates of poverty, illiteracy and a lack of electricity, there are nonetheless more than 6,000 users registered to the Afghanistan network.

Many are Canadian, American and European ex-patriates working in Afghanistan in areas such as development, security and diplomacy, while others are native Afghans who left their turbulent country to take up residence in the west.

Still, a number are local Afghans who work with foreigners and who, in some cases, were introduced to the website by their non-Afghan colleagues.

One young man who works with Canadians in Kandahar City, where the bulk of the country's 2,500 troops are based, said he first started using Facebook in 2002.

He asked that his name not be used since working with foreigners is the sort of thing that could get somebody killed in Afghanistan.

He currently has 62 friends and figures about a third of them are fellow Afghans. "It is growing rapidly among those Afghans who interact with the international community."

A fellow Afghan friend said while he generally uses Facebook to keep in touch with Canadian friends, it's also a way of "meeting new female friends" something that's not easy in Afghanistan.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Canadian dives over Everest, makes record book for jump

ADVENTURE A Canadian man is among three skydiving daredevils to make the highest parachute jump ever over Mount Everest.

According to the Everest Skydive 2008 official blog, Neil Jones of Canada along with Holly Budge of Britain and Wendy Smith of New Zealand all jumped solo out of a plane at an altitude of almost 9,000 metres over the world's tallest peak yesterday.

They landed safely at a site about 3,700 metres above sea level, setting a record for making the jump from the highest drop zone.

According to the blog, they were among seven skydivers who made jumps in two different groups from different altitudes over the 8,850-metre peak.

The adventurous plunge was organized by British travel company High & Wild. THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

WAR A Canadian soldier was injured in southern Afghanistan yesterday when a roadside bomb exploded near an armoured vehicle carrying troops, the military said. It said the incident occurred shortly before noon local time in Maywand district, 45 kilometres west of Kandahar city.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Immigration

Guidy Mamann

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Looking good on the campaign trail

Sweater fever is catching. First it was Stephen Harper who donned a baby-blue sweater in the campaign's early days in a bid to look more relaxed. Now Stéphane Dion has adopted the look, too, with a burgundy sweater during a swing through New Brunswick and P.E.I. Saturday. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Election 2008

News in brief

NUMBERS With just more than a week until voting day, a new survey suggests Stephen Harper's Conservatives have dipped to 34 per cent in support — still 10 points ahead of the Liberals but short of levels needed to win a majority. The rolling survey interviewed 1,236 people Wednesday through Saturday and is considered accurate to within 2.8 percentage points, 19 times out of 20.

NORTH Liberal Leader Stéphane Dion put northern issues in the spotlight yesterday, starting in Iqaluit, Nunavut, where he warned that military might alone is not enough to ensure Canada's hold on the Arctic and urged greater focus on northern residents and "aggressive diplomacy" to enforce its sovereignty. Prime Minister Stephen Harper's focus on the military as the muscle to enforce Canadian sovereignty is a mistake, Dion said yesterday during a visit to the capital.

VOTES NDP Leader Jack Layton is ramping up the rhetoric and his call for strategic voting to unseat Prime Minister Stephen Harper, or at least rob him of a majority. Layton said yesterday in Thunder Bay that Harper cares far more about corporate tax cuts than he does about people struggling to make ends meet or losing their jobs.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

What has an election ad done for you lately?

AdVentures

Mike Tennant

Do election ads make any difference? A good test is to try to remember the last ad that made a significant splash during an election campaign: An ad notable because it backfired.

The 1993 TV ad by the (then) Progressive Conservatives appeared to make fun of Jean Chrétien's facial paralysis. Its double-dollop of schoolyard bully meanness made a bad campaign worse for Kim Campbell's Tories, who lost all but two of their 169 seats.

Positive ads rarely define a campaign. The one spectacular exception is the TV ad It's Morning Again in America, created by ad legend Hal Riney for Ronald Reagan's 1984 re-election campaign. Its irresistible aw-shucks Norman Rockwell Americana helped Reagan whup Walter Mondale by 16 million votes. But the ad's secret ingredient was Reagan himself: Voters believed that he believed the rosy view of America, and they wanted a plateful of whatever he was having.

Campaign ads are effective in bolstering a leader's image and enhancing doubts about the bad guys. But like most ads, their effect is slow and gradual, like grains of sand filling an hourglass. And they can only work with impressions that already exist somewhere in the voter's mind.

Slogans once ruled election campaigns, but they, too, often backfired. In 1908, the Liberals campaigned on the slogan Let Laurier Finish His Work. Opponents mocked: Let Laurier's Work Finish Him.

Jean Chrétien

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE PHOTO

In 1964, rumours spread that Republican nominee Barry Goldwater was willing — even eager — to use nuclear weapons. Scoffers converted his official slogan You Know in Your Heart He's Right to You Know in Your Guts He's Nuts.

Goldwater was also the target of Daisy, a landmark TV spot from Doyle Dane Bernbach (who had put the VW Beetle on the map with its fantastic Think Small campaign), showing a little girl playing in a pasture as a loudspeaker counts down to a nuclear blast. Over the mushroom cloud, Lyndon Johnson's voice reads, in part: "We must either love each other, or we must die." Between the lines: Elect Goldwater and he'll nuke your children.

Advertising is not where campaigns happen: They simply divert attention with Neverland imagery of what a party wants you to think. Campaigns are defined by gaffes, rumours and unguarded moments — inspiring and disastrous — that shift the prevailing winds of public mood.

And the conversation is moving to the Internet through blogs, social networks and instant messaging.

As I write this, a Google search of "Harper" and "election" yields some 98,000 blogs. A YouTube search of "Canada," "election" and "2008" produces more than 1,000 videos. That's where campaigning is headed.

You heard it here first.

Mike Tennant is a freelance ad writer and co-creator/writer of Terry O'Reilly and the Age of Persuasion on CBC Radio One.

Campaign

Stephen Harper

Tories to launch counter-attack

STRATEGY Accusing their political opponents of "fear-mongering on the economy" to win votes, the Conservatives will launch a major counter-attack in the last week of the campaign leading up to the Oct. 14 ballot.

"When you are not expected to win government, when you're Opposition leader, when you're down in the polls, you can spend time fear-mongering on the economy and cheering for a recession for your own political gain," a senior Conservative strategist said during a conference call to provide reporters background on the week ahead.

"But when you're the prime minister, you actually have to be honest about the situation. To say that we're going to have serious problems in the banking sector when that is in fact not the case would be destabilizing to markets."

The official's comments appeared to elaborate on comments Prime Minister Stephen Harper made to reporters Saturday night as his tour returned to Ottawa. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Watch Stephen Harper get grilled as Tory support hits a new low at metronews.ca/canada

8 days remain until the 2008 Canadian federal election

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Young Grits mix sex and politics

Don't tell the Young Liberals sex and politics don't mix. They sent promotional kits to 60 campuses this fall with posters, pins ... and condoms with the slogans Make Love Not a Conservative Government, Canvas Your Poll and Stand Up For Canada (ahem).

"Hey, we're young Liberals — we can do that," says Adam Miron, head of the 10,000-strong Young Liberals of Canada, who, like all self-respecting techno-activists, also are using YouTube clips, Twitter campaigns and interactive websites to try to put their peers in an electoral mood.

"We're seeing a general greying of party politics in Canada, partly because the parties aren't doing a good enough job reaching out to young people."
Prof. Bill Cross

While the condoms were a hit, it remains tough to stir the political hormones of young Canadians, who are delaying voting later and later.

"We're seeing a general greying of party politics in Canada, partly because the parties aren't doing a good enough job reaching out to young people," says Carleton University political science Prof. Bill Cross.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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U.S. urges consumers to cook chicken well after salmonella sickens 32

The U.S. government is urging consumers to thoroughly cook frozen chicken dinners after 32 people in 12 states were sickened with salmonella poisoning. Many of the ill apparently microwaved the chicken dishes even though the cooking instructions did not provide for it. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World

Chavez to offer clean, free cars

Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez says he plans to start a program next year that will give away cars running on less-polluting natural gas to people who turn in old, gas guzzling cars. There was no mention of what sort of cars will be offered or how many will be given away. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

McCain to get nastier

Republicans target Obama's character, friendships, ability

John McCain's presidential campaign is expected to get nastier and more personal in the final four weeks until election day as Barack Obama makes dramatic inroads in the key battleground states that will determine who wins the White House.

The McCain campaign is reportedly trying to shift focus away from the thorn in the Arizona senator's side — the U.S. economic crisis — and aggressively attack Obama's character, his friendships and his ability to run the country.

"We're going to get a little tougher. We've got to question (Barack Obama's) associations ... There's no question that we have to change the subject here."
Unnamed Republican strategist

"We're going to get a little tougher," an unnamed Republican strategist told the Washington Post. "We've got to question this guy's associations. Very soon. There's no question that we have to change the subject here."

The get-tough approach already seemed in full force this past weekend, when Republican vice-presidential candidate Sarah Palin suggested Obama is "palling around with terrorists," referring to Obama's old relationship with William Ayers, a member of the Vietnam-era Weather Underground.

Obama long ago denounced Ayers for his radical background.

Picking away at Obama's experience and judgment worked well for McCain in the summer, but was effectively neutralized after his surprise pick of Palin, the junior governor from Alaska, as his running mate.

Questions about whether the much-ridiculed Palin has the experience to serve as vice-president have dogged McCain's campaign.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Spain **Towering feat**

JASPER JUINEN/GETTY IMAGES

Members of the Castellers de Sants build a human tower during the 22nd Tarragona Castells competition in Tarragona, Spain. The "castellers" compete in groups at local festivals to build the highest and most complex human tower.

News in brief

FOSSETT California officials say recovery efforts around the site of adventurer Steve Fossett's downed plane might not resume until summer. Snowfall ended the search on Friday. Authorities say they finished most of what they needed to do Friday when they removed debris and found three more bone fragments.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

O.J. isolated in jail, looking to appeal

JUSTICE O.J. Simpson is being isolated from other prisoners for his own safety, and is focusing on a motion for new trial and a strong bid for appellate reversal of his conviction for kidnapping and robbery, his lawyer said yesterday.

Yale Galanter told The Associated Press he will continue to pursue a request for Simpson to be released on bond pending appeal.

Simpson will be held in Clark County Detention Center until his Dec. 5 sentencing, then is expected to be transferred to state prison. Because of the seriousness of the charges, it is likely that the 61-year-old former football star would remain in jail during his appeal.

Galanter said an appeal cannot be filed until after Simpson is sentenced.

"We are planning to fast track that as much as possible," he said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Zimbabwe factions resume power-sharing talks
Zimbabwe's political factions are back in talks but have yet to agree on a unity cabinet. President Robert Mugabe and his main rivals signed a power-sharing agreement last month, but since then they have made no progress on deciding who would hold which posts in the cabinet. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rice: U.S. not trying to undermine Russia

U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice yesterday rejected any suggestion that U.S. efforts to build closer ties to Kazakhstan are meant to undermine Russian influence in Central Asia.

"This is not a zero-sum game," she said while flying to the Kazakh capital. U.S. gains need not mean Russian losses, she said.

"First of all, Kazakhstan is an independent country. It can have friendships with whomever it wishes," she said. "That's perfectly acceptable in the 21st century, so we don't see and don't accept any notion of a special sphere of influence" for Russia in this region.

"Kazakhstan is an independent country. It can have friendships with whomever it wishes."
Condoleezza Rice

Rice was scheduled to meet with President Nursultan Nazarbayev, Foreign Minister Marat Tazhin and Prime Minister Karim Masimov.

Rice is leading U.S. efforts to court energy-rich Kazakhstan, which has maintained close relations with Russia while also keeping a door open to the West. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Russia dismantles Georgian posts ahead of deadline

GEORGIA Russian troops began dismantling positions yesterday in the so-called security zones inside Georgia they have occupied since August's brief but intense war, a Georgian Interior Ministry official said.

The moves came as Russia faced a Friday deadline for pulling back its troops under the terms of a France-brokered deal. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Biden's mother-in-law dead

CANCELLED U.S. Democratic vice-presidential nominee Joe Biden has cancelled campaign appearances today and tomorrow after the death of his mother-in-law.

Biden spokesman David Wade said Bonny Jean Jacobs, the mother of Biden's wife, Jill, died after a long illness.

Jacobs was 78 and lived in Willow Grove, Pa.

Wade described her as a homemaker and avid gardener with a lifelong love of reading. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

TAINTED MILK China's food safety watchdog says no traces of the industrial chemical melamine were found in new tests of liquid milk sold domestically. It was the second time in less than a week that tests of liquid-milk products showed no contamination, though on Wednesday the regulator said milk-powder products for adults were tainted.

INDIA Police shot at violent mobs in northeastern India, killing 14 people and raising the death toll to at least 30 from three days of ethnic clashes between members of the ethnic Bodo group and Muslim settlers, officials said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Sky's the limit for Dubai builders

Dubai said yesterday it plans to build a skyscraper even more ambitious than its world's tallest building, which is nearing completion: It wants to build one that will soar more than one kilometre into the air, or 10 football fields high. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Business

Air travel ups and downs

Air Canada had fewer empty seats in September compared with a year ago as it cut capacity, by 6.9 per cent, faster than its passenger traffic declined, 80.9 per cent compared with 79.1 per cent. WestJet's load factor fell 3.2 per cent to 75.5 as it increased capacity by 15.8 per cent.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

EDITOR: FERMIN DESOUZA, FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Turmoil limits job growth

The Canadian economy is expected to post modest job growth for September amid the turmoil in financial markets, but trouble lies ahead as the United States appears headed for a deep recession, economists say.

The job numbers, to be reported Friday by Statistics Canada, follow the evaporation of more than $150 billion in value on the Toronto Stock Exchange last week and tightening credit markets, forcing businesses to keep a close eye on costs.

And the $700-billion US bailout of U.S. financial industry, signed by President George W. Bush last week, is not expected to be an instant cure-all.

"The Canadian job market hasn't exactly given a stellar performance this year and that's because the economy itself is in a depressed shape," TD economics strategist Millan Mulraine said, noting the economy shrank in the first quarter and eked out only a small gain in the second.

"The Canadian job market hasn't exactly given a stellar performance this year."
Millan Mulraine

The average estimate by economists is for the addition of about 12,500 new jobs in the Canadian economy in September, that's down slightly from the 15,200 jobs created in August. For the first eight months of the year the Canadian economy, has created 87,000 jobs compared with 221,000 in the first eight months of 2007.

In the last two years, many new jobs have been created in resources industries such as oil and gas, mining and agriculture based, offsetting big losses in the manufacturing sector in Ontario and Quebec.

In addition, public sector jobs in education and health care helped boost the employment picture.

Canada's jobless rate currently stands at 6.1 per cent, close to its lowest level in three decades, though economists expect it to rise to 6.2 per cent for September.

Mulraine forecast the Canadian economy will grow by about 15,000 jobs in September, mostly due to hiring related to the Oct. 14 federal election.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

The outlook

- THE LATEST: U.S. lost 159,000 jobs in September. Canada is expected to add more than 12,000 jobs in September.
- THIS YEAR: The U.S. economy has lost 760,000 jobs. In Canada, the economy has created 87,000 jobs for the first eight months this year.
- JOBLESS RATE: 6.1 per cent for U.S. In Canada, jobless rate is expected to rise to 6.2 per cent in September from 6.1 per cent in August.
- WHAT U.S. RECESSION MEANS: With jobs harder to come by and wage growth slowing, consumers are expected to hunker down further, spelling more problems.
- THE OUTLOOK: More pain in the months ahead. The unemployment rate probably will climb and jobs will continue to be cut.

Market volatility to continue

MARKETS It was a gut-wrenching week for investors as the Toronto stock market wiped out $150 billion of value and bounced around like a pinball, and it's likely there will be more of the same ahead as the global economy deteriorates and drags commodity prices down with it.

"The situation is still very fluid, very much in flux," said Patricia Croft, chief economist of investment firm Phillips, Hager and North.

"I think markets are rallying from a deeply oversold position, but nonetheless the reality is the economic backdrop continues to deteriorate."

Canadian unemployment numbers will be released Friday and Croft said they likely won't be pretty.

"I suspect we'll see a softening of Canada's labour market," she said. "This is truly a global credit crisis, and now it's being overlaid by growing concerns about a slowdown in the global economy." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Business in brief

BAILOUTS The German government held crisis talks after the collapse of a $48.4 billion US bailout of property lender Hypo Real Estate AG. In Iceland, a possible rescue plan was discussed for the country's commercial banks. Belgian officials and bankers struggled to salvage the Belgian operations of Fortis NV, whose Dutch operations were nationalized. Britain's treasury chief said that he was ready to take "pretty big steps" to help his country weather the crunch. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Slowdown may hurt 2010 Games

OLYMPICS The credit crisis does not threaten the hosting of the Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympic Games, but a global economic slowdown could dampen ticket sales, tourism spinoffs and overall revenues from the event, economists say.

While there won't be a shortage of people, there could be a revenue shortfall and slow early ticket sales, as well as a drop in tourism and business generated at the Games.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

In brief

AGREEMENT Enbridge and Saskatchewan First Nations groups reached an interim agreement that will see more training and placement of First Nations people, after First Nations blockades disrupted work on the pipeline last week.

ANTITRUST Google has agreed to delay an advertising partnership with rival Yahoo, giving U.S. regulators more time to review the deal that would have given the two 80 per cent of the U.S. market for search advertising. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Wait-time insurance

A health insurance policy that sends people facing long waits for surgery to private clinics or the United States is the latest flash point for critics warning Canada is on a slippery slope toward for-profit health care.

But one health-care expert wonders whether there will be enough demand for such a service to have any impact on the public medicare system.

Calgary-based Acure Health Corp. has been quietly selling its so-called wait-time insurance for several years, but it made headlines recently after the British Columbia Automobile Association began offering the policy.

> **"I wouldn't rush to say this the nail in the coffin of public health care."**
> Terrance Sullivan

Under the policy, patients on waiting lists longer than 45 days for procedures ranging from MRI scans to heart bypass operations can be moved to private facilities in Canada or the U.S.

Opponents say the company promotes queue-jumping and encourages private clinics to poach public resources.

But Prof. Terrance Sullivan, who specializes in health-care policy at the University of Toronto, says it's unlikely the insurance offers patients enough benefit to make much of a dent.

"I wouldn't rush to say that this is the nail in the coffin of public health care," says Sullivan, who is also president of Cancer Care Ontario.

"The first question before you get to any sinister conclusions is: Is anybody going to buy this insurance?"

Canadians are already free to pay for treatment in the United States, but Sullivan says statistics suggest few actually do so.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Cows may hold secrets for unleashing corn's energy

ENERGY Researchers attempting to make the production of corn-based ethanol more efficient may not have needed to leave the farm.

Corn stores nearly half its potential energy in places other than the kernel, such as stalks and leaves — but these parts are high in cellulose, a material that thickens cell walls and is tough to break down.

An enzyme found in a cow's stomach may hold the key to using all the plant, not just the kernel.

Michigan State University Prof. Mariam Sticklen took a gene from a cow, implanted it into a corn cell, and let the gene replicate an enzyme that breaks down cellulose. The enzyme sits in the cell's vacuole until the plant is crushed to make ethanol.

Spartan Corn III is the culmination of Sticklen's search for a new way to break cellulose into simple sugars for use in fuel.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Vancouver beats Montreal to advance to USL final

The Vancouver Whitecaps advanced to their second USL First Division Championship Game in the last three years after beating the Montreal Impact 2-0 in the second leg and 2-1 on aggregate. Jeff Clarke and Eduardo Sebrango tallied for Vancouver in the 37th and 41st minutes respectively. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sports

Jankovic continues winning ways

New women's No. 1 Jelena Jankovic won her second title in two weeks, defeating Nadia Petrova of Russia 6-4, 6-3 yesterday in the final of the Porsche Grand Prix. The 23-year-old Serb also won the China Open last week and the Italian Open earlier this year. Jankovic was assured of taking the top ranking from Serena Williams regardless of the outcome of the final.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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JASON BABYAK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Arizona Cardinals runningback Tim Hightower, right, scores as Buffalo Bills' Bryan Scott (43) defends during the fourth quarter of the Bills 41-17 loss.

Bills streak snapped

Arizona 41, Buffalo 17

The Buffalo Bills lost their quarterback and, emphatically, their first game of the season.

Rookie Tim Hightower had a pair of touchdown runs and Kurt Warner threw to Larry Fitzgerald twice for scores to lead the Arizona Cardinals to a 41-17 victory over the Bills yesterday.

Colts 31 Texans 27 —

Peyton Manning turned a colossal collapse by the Houston Texans into a stunning victory for the Indianapolis Colts. The Colts scored 21 points in a late span of 2:10 — two touchdowns thanks to fumbles by Sage Rosenfels — then intercepted Rosenfels' last-ditch comeback attempt for a 31-27 win.

Elsewhere in the NFL, it was: Dolphins 17, Chargers 10; Titans 13, Ravens 10; Giants 44, Seahawks 6; Falcons 27, Packers 24; Redskins 23, Eagles 17; Panthers 34, Chiefs 0; Bears 34, Lions 7; Broncos 16, Buccaneers 13; Cowboys 31, Bengals 22; and Patriots 30, 49ers 21.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Phillies in, Chicago alive

White Sox 5 Tampa Bay 3

Thanks to John Danks and the White Sox, Chicago still has one team standing.

Danks pitched another big game to save the season and well-travelled DeWayne Wise delivered a two-run double as the White Sox beat Tampa Bay 5-3 yesterday, trimming the Rays' lead in their AL playoff series to 2-1.

Game 4 in the best-of-five matchup is today in Chicago, with Gavin Floyd facing Tampa Bay's Andy Sonnanstine.

"We're going to put a lot of pressure on them," Sox manager Ozzie Guillen said.

"I'm just trying to win one game and not get swept. I could care less about the Cubs," Guillen said, adding he sent a text message to Cubs pitcher and fellow Venezuelan Carlos Zambrano, telling him to keep his head up.

MICHAEL CONROY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Philadelphia Phillies' Carlos Ruiz, left, and Chase Utley celebrate after a 6-2 win over the Milwaukee Brewers to advance to the National League championship series against the Los Angeles Dodgers.

Phillies 6 Brewers 2 —

The Philadelphia Phillies found plenty of power to go with their pitching, right in time for the National League Championship Series.

Pat Burrell broke out of his slump in a big way with two homers, one a three-run shot, and Jimmy Rollins and Jayson Werth added solo drives Sunday to lead the Phillies to a 6-2 victory over the Milwaukee Brewers that clinched their first trip to the NLCS since 1993.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Howard gets shot with Nuggets

NBA The Denver Nuggets have signed veteran forward Juwan Howard to their training camp roster. Howard had the least productive campaign of his 14-year career last season with Dallas as he averaged just 1.1 points and 1.6 rebounds per game while averaging just a bit over seven minutes.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Sports in brief

NASCAR Tony Stewart ended his frustrating winless season yesterday by earning his first Sprint Cup Series victory at Talladega Superspeedway when NASCAR ruled that Regan Smith's last-lap pass was illegal. In the final lap, Smith dove below the yellow out-of-bounds line at the bottom of the track to make the pass, and beat Stewart to the finish line. NASCAR reviewed the move after the race and ruled it illegal.

TORONTO FC The Toronto FC kept their slim MLS playoff hopes alive with a 3-1 away victory over the New York Red Bulls Saturday. Striker Chad Barrett potted two to lead the way as 17-year-old sensation Ibee Ibrahim headed home Toronto's third goal to secure the victory. Toronto now trails New York by four points with three games remaining for the final playoff spot.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Rangers complete European sweep

NHL Wade Redden and Scott Gomez each scored a goal and assisted on another, as the New York Rangers completed a European sweep of the Tampa Bay Lightning with another 2-1 victory in the Czech Republic.

Goalie Henrik Lundqvist stopped 18 shots for the Rangers in the victory.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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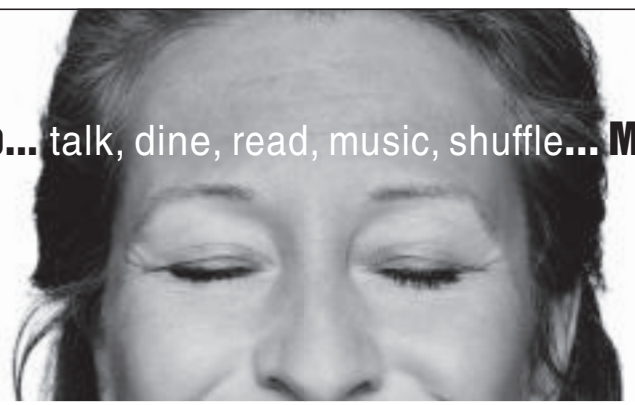

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Here are some important tips to help you get to your train or bus:

- **Be sure to check the electronic departure boards located throughout Union Station and the GO Bus Terminal before proceeding to your platform**
- Listen for announcements at the station and terminal, and on trains and buses
- Give yourself a little extra time to check the signs and become familiar with the new numbering system
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FRANK GUNN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Toronto Maple Leafs forward Matt Stajan gets knocked down by Columbus Blue Jackets forward Craig MacDonald during yesterday's pre-season game in Toronto.

Blue Jackets sting Leafs

Blue Jackets 5 Leafs 4 (SO)

The dress rehearsal is over. And the final act wasn't pretty.

The Toronto Maple Leafs blew a two-goal lead late in their final exhibition tune-up and watched as the Columbus Blue Jackets completed the comeback in a shootout, walking away with a 5-4 victory yesterday.

Nikita Filatov had a goal in regulation before scoring the shootout winner for Columbus. Alexandre Picard, Jakub Voracek and Jason Chimera also had goals for the Blue Jackets.

Mikhail Grabovsky scored his team-leading fifth pre-season goal and added two assists for Toronto. Mike Van Ryn, Anton Stralman and Alexei Ponikarovsky also scored.

The Leafs are expected to make their final roster decisions over the next couple days.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Liverpool pulls off comeback win

SOCCER Liverpool rallied from two goals down to beat Manchester City 3-2 yesterday and remain neck-and-neck with Chelsea at the top of the Premier League, while promoted Hull climbed into third place after a 1-0 victory at last-place Tottenham.

League leader Chelsea outplayed Aston Villa 2-0 at Stamford Bridge with goals by Joe Cole and Nicolas Anelka, but Liverpool's comeback at City of Manchester Stadium put it even at the top with 17 points. Fernando Torres scored two goals and Dirk Kuyt added the winner in injury time.

Portsmouth beat next-to-last Stoke 2-1, Bolton won 3-1 at West Ham and Newcastle came from two goals down to draw 2-2 at Everton.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SCOREBOARD

MLB

AMERICAN LEAGUE
DIVISIONAL SERIES PLAYOFFS
BEST OF FIVE
L.A. Angels vs. Boston
LAST NIGHT'S GAME
L.A. Angels at Boston, (Boston leads series 2-0)
Tampa Bay vs. Chicago W. Sox
YESTERDAY'S RESULT
Chicago White Sox 5 Tampa Bay 3
TONIGHT'S GAME
Tampa Bay at Chicago Sox, 5:07 (Tampa Bay leads series 2-1)
NATIONAL LEAGUE
DIVISIONAL SERIES PLAYOFFS
BEST OF FIVE
Chicago Cubs vs. L.A. Dodgers
SATURDAY'S RESULT
L.A. Dodgers 3 Chicago Cubs 1 (Dodgers win series 3-0)
Philadelphia vs. Milwaukee
SATURDAY'S RESULT
Philadelphia 6 Milwaukee 2 (Philadelphia wins series 3-1)

CFL

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	T	PTS
y-Montreal	9	5	0	18
Winnipeg	5	9	0	10
TORONTO	**4**	**10**	**0**	**8**
Hamilton	3	11	0	6

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	T	PTS
x-Calgary	9	5	0	18
x-B.C.	9	5	0	18
x-Saskatchewan	9	5	0	18
Edmonton	8	6	0	16

(x - clinched playoff spot)
(y - clinched division title)
WEEK 15
FRIDAY'S RESULTS
B.C. 24 **TORONTO** 20
Saskatchewan 37 Calgary 34
SATURDAY'S RESULTS
Edmonton 36 Winnipeg 22
Hamilton 44 Montreal 38

NFL

WEEK 5
YESTERDAY'S RESULTS
Chicago 34 Detroit 7
Miami 17 San Diego 10
Atlanta 27 Green Bay 24
N.Y. Giants 44 Seattle 6
Tennessee 13 Baltimore 10
Indianapolis 31 Houston 27
Carolina 34 Kansas City 0
Washington 23 Philadelphia 17
Denver 16 Tampa Bay 13
Dallas 31 Cincinnati 22
Arizona 41 Buffalo 17
New England 30 San Francisco 21
Pittsburgh at Jacksonville
TONIGHT'S GAME
Minnesota at New Orleans, 8:30

SOCCER

MLS GAMES FEATURING TORONTO FC:
SATURDAY'S RESULT
TORONTO 3 New York 1
SATURDAY'S GAME
TORONTO at FC Dallas, 8:30

Cold water can save

If 1 million people washed their clothes in cold water, we could eliminate approximately 250,000 tons of CO_2 each year, according to The Live Earth: Global Warming Survival Handbook by David de Rothschild. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Going Green

Compost household waste

Canadians produce more than 21 million tonnes of garbage annually, according to Greeniology: How To Live Well, Be Green And Make A Difference by Tanya Ha. Approximately 30 per cent of household waste is organic material, much of which could be put into compost bins.

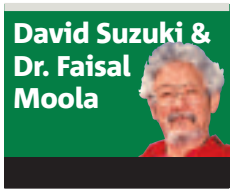
METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: MIKE DEREZYCKY, MIKE.DEREZYCKY@METRONEWS.CA

Putting humans in their place

The planet is a complex interaction of air, water, land and living things — all interconnected

ScienceMatters



Andrew Weaver's recently published book, Keeping Our Cool: Canada In A Warming World, is an urgent call to action that some of the folks running for the privilege of leading us into the future seem to be ignoring.

Weaver, a world-class climatologist who is putting the University of Victoria on the global map, was one of the lead authors on papers put out by the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. In that role, he shared the Nobel Peace Prize last year with other panel members.

In the book, Weaver argues that if we are to stabilize atmospheric levels of carbon at a level that will not result in climate going haywire, we must begin massive reductions in greenhouse gas emissions now with a goal of totally eliminating our output of them. If we don't, 80 per cent of all species could become extinct! That's an astounding prediction, and if we think we'll somehow survive such a catastrophic crisis, we should think again.

When I first read about colonies of honeybees dying out, a bolt of fear went through me. Without pollinators, most flowering plants will not survive, and that would devastate the makeup of species on the planet.

We have become the dominant animal on the planet, and it has been an amazing story. But in puffing ourselves up with self importance, we have lost sight of how little we know about the way the world works and how utterly dependent we are on the services that nature performs for us, like removing carbon dioxide from the air and replacing it with oxygen — not a bad service for animals like us.

Eminent Harvard ecologist and ant expert E.O. Wilson once told me that if humans disappeared overnight, only a handful of organisms would also go extinct: Creatures that live on our skin, in our armpits, and our groins and guts. The rest of nature would rebound, the planet would green up, and animals would increase in abundance.

But if all the ants went extinct overnight, whole terrestrial ecosystems would collapse, and the makeup of animals and plants would change catastrophically. Kind of puts humans into perspective.

We apparently now put health as one of our top priorities in this election. Well, when we use air, water, and land as a garbage can, do we think we are somehow immune to the health consequences?

We've got to see the world as it really is — a complex interaction of air, water, land, and living things, all interconnected and all interdependent.

We are rampaging across the planet, treating it as our plaything, as our source of raw materials, as our dumping ground for our waste and emissions. And then we whine like mad when reminded that we have to change and we have to pay for what we do. Why haven't we heard more about this perspective in the current election campaign?

Take David Suzuki's Nature Challenge and learn more at www.davidsuzuki.org.

Dr. David T. Suzuki is a Vancouver-based award-winning scientist, environmentalist and broadcaster.

Benefits of eco-friendly living appeal to Canadians: Study

Despite recent reports about a possible economic crunch, Canadians are still giving the environment top billing.

Eighty per cent of Canadians consider the environmental impact of their purchasing decisions and are eager to make positive changes according to a recent Canadian study conducted by the Gandalf Group. The study also reports that the long-term financial and environmental benefits are what appeal to most Canadians.

One of the simplest and most effective ways to make your household more green is replacing light bulbs. This significantly reduces the amount of electricity used in the home as well as the amount of harmful greenhouse gases. Replacing one incandescent light bulb with an energy-efficient compact fluorescent can result in an annual savings of more than $50 in household electricity costs. In addition to compact fluorescent bulbs, Philips Electronics has recently introduced new halogen energy-saving bulbs and ultra-efficient LED bulbs to offer consumers more energy-saving options.

Some other suggestions to help your household reduce its environmental impact, while saving on energy costs are:

Replace old appliances with energy efficient ones.

Unplug TVs, stereos and other electronics when not in use.

Turn off the lights when leaving a room.

Place outdoor lights on timers.

Make the most of natural light by opening window blinds and curtains.

Keep the air conditioner and furnace on low settings.

In your home or in the community, each of us can make a contribution to a sustainable future and a healthy environment. As the saying goes: "Think globally and act locally."

To make a public pledge to change your light bulbs to energy efficient products, go to www.asimpleswitch.com. Sign up, tell your friends and make a difference.

NEWS CANADA

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University of Winnipeg a 'no-fly zone' for Conservative candidates

Student leaders in Manitoba are upset after the University of Winnipeg was called a "no-fly zone" in an e-mail sent from Conservative campaign organizers, indicating party representatives would not attend the university's all-candidates forum. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Workology

UBC in NCAA?

The University of British Columbia is in the final stages of deciding whether to apply for membership with the National Collegiate Athletic Association at the Division II level, and interest is growing among NCAA schools for UBC to join. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: DOUGLAS DUNLOP, DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

Taking the 'busy' out of business

START-UP Small business is booming. According to Statistics Canada, there are more than 70 small businesses for every 1,000 people across the country. While small businesses are big in numbers, keeping them on track can be a challenge for owners.

By sticking to a few basic rules, owners can cut back on the administration and focus on their business.

Follow your business plan to keep focused on immediate needs and on track toward long-term business goals. Manage your tasks with a to do list that keeps you on track. E-mail correspondence can be overwhelming. To save time, set up a filing system that sorts important e-mails and attachments.

Popular small business accounting software, such as QuickBooks, will cut the time you spend on accounting. It can print cheques, create invoices, track expenses and set due-date reminders to keep track of money coming in.

NEWS CANADA

Jimmy 'The Iceman' cometh

Odd**Jobs**

Diane Peters

It's a little known fact that two, not one, hockey-related stars have come out of Brantford, Ont.

You've probably seen one of them — his name is Wayne — work his magic. Less likely, you've watched Jimmy MacNeil and his ice-related skills.

For 20 years, 47-year-old MacNeil has been a certified ice technician. Most call him a Zamboni driver. (Olympia also makes ice resurfacers, but Zamboni is the name that's stuck.)

He rose to fame in 1999 when the Zamboni Company went on the hunt for the Zamboni Driver of the Year. MacNeil triumphed in the Internet competition partly thanks to the support of factory staff at the Zamboni factory in Brantford. After winning his title, "The Iceman" MacNeil received a lot of exposure on TV and radio. He also drove a Zamboni across Canada in 2001 and raised $1 million for the Canadian Hockey Association.

PETER POWER/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Have you ever thought of being the Zamboni driver at the local hockey rink?

"There's a certain aura about it. The cold, the smell of the popcorn and the hot dogs."
Jimmy MacNeil

This was not his original career plan. He studied history at Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo, Ont., and planned to become a teacher. But after graduation, his father became ill and needed help with his mechanic business.

At the time, Alex MacNeil was one of the few who could fix ice resurfacers. So father and son kept busy visiting arenas in southern Ontario and the northern U.S. MacNeil wasn't the greatest apprentice mechanic, but he loved arenas.

"There's a certain aura about it. The cold, the smell of the popcorn and the hotdogs. If you want to meet a lot of happy people just having fun, just go to an ice rink," he says.

After five years of helping his dad, MacNeil got a job driving an ice resurfacer in a nearby township. He started taking courses to get certified and three years later started driving for the Brantford and District Civic Centre.

Every hour, MacNeil — or one of the other three drivers at the arena — drives the Zamboni onto the ice. He guides the machine through its job of shaving a layer of ice away and spraying a coating of water over the surface, which refreezes smooth and clean. He frequently measures the thickness of the ice and uses slush to do serious repairs.

The other 50 minutes of every hour he's on shift, MacNeil helps run the arena by checking on the refrigeration system, tidying up and doing odd jobs.

Although the kids at the rink today have no memory of The Iceman, they often ask for his autograph.

"There's something so unique and cool and fun about watching this machine take all that snow that the players have made and in 10 minutes restore the ice to what it was.

"It's such a fun thing to watch."

Diane Peters once hawked magic pens at the Canadian National Exhibition. She's now a writer and part-time journalism instructor.

The Lowdown

Job title: Zamboni driver/certified ice technician

Salary: $35,000 to $45,000

Education/Training: A certificate from a provincial organization such as the Ontario Recreation Facilities Association

Best Part of the Job: "Driving around the rink and seeing the kids giving you the thumbs up and cheering for you."

Worst Part of the Job: "Plugged toilets."

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York MBA named No. 1 in Canada

York University's Schulich School of Business placed first in Canada in the Economist Intelligence Unit's latest global MBA rankings. York came in 15th place worldwide, up from 24 in 2007. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Staying put is in with Generation Y

RAFAEL BRUSILOW
for Metro Canada

Despite commonly held beliefs to the contrary, a new report reveals more than half of Generation Y'ers would prefer to spend their careers at a single company.

The From Learning to Work 2008 report, released by jobs website Workopolis.ca and research consulting firm DECODE, surveyed 27,000 college and university students across Canada and found the 18-26 age group of students values career stability above all other concerns.

More than half of all respondents (54 per cent) said they would be interested in finding an employer with whom they could spend their entire working career.

Eric Meerkamper, partner at DECODE, says the results show that while Gen Y may be notoriously picky when it comes to signing on with an employer, they are willing be to loyal to ones that treat them well.

"There's a willingness there to stick to a good career," he said.

When asked to list their companies of choice to work for, students placed the Government of Canada and Health Canada in the No. 1 and No. 2 slots, respectively, suggesting Gen Y'ers might be far more practical minded than common stereotypes about them suggest. Google, the provincial government and Apple rounded out the top five.

Meerkamper suggests young graduates are choosing employer brands they are comfortable with and know can offer them stability in their working life.

"People who are graduating today are actually quite focused in their careers. They're very rational, they realize work is important and they're looking for stability," Meerkamper said.

Jobs in the government also tend to offer a strong potential for meaningful social impact, an idea that Gen Y'ers tend to gravitate toward, according to Meerkamper.

Students surveyed also put work-life balance as their primary career goal, something Meerkamper says is no surprise given Gen Y's well-documented preferences for flexibility in job hours and setting.

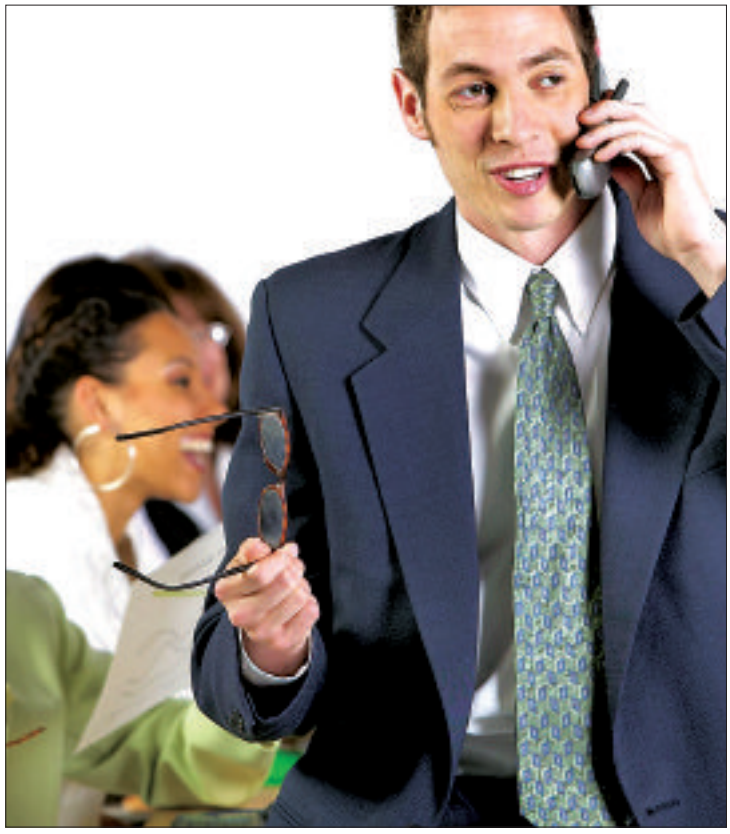
"It's not that they're afraid to work, they just don't want to let it define their lives. Gen Y sees work as an enabler," he said.

Students also rated good people to work with as a crucial factor in their choice of workplace, suggesting employers who show off their corporate culture and celebrate the quality of their employees are more likely to attract Gen Y talent.

"For an employer, the implication is what are you doing to talk about the kind of people that work for you? Help Gen Y'ers understand what their life would look like at their job with you. If a company can illustrate a career path, that's appealing to people," Meerkamper said.

Ultimately, Meerkamper says none of the results in the report should be seen as a hurdle to good companies already committed to taking care of their employees.

"In a lot of ways, what Gen Y'ers are looking for shouldn't be scary to a lot of organizations."



Generation Y workers are happy to stay with one company their whole career, a study suggests.

"There's a willingness there to stick to a good career."
Eric Meerkamper

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Athabasca University to launch Canada's first online DBA
Athabasca University is introducing Canada's first online Doctorate in Business Administration, which recently received approval from the Alberta government. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Essential tips for mature workers

For several years now, studies have shown that the Canadian labour force is shrinking.

In fact, some conclude that we're now in a crisis situation. As a result, many older workers who would otherwise be retired have chosen to keep working.

For some, it offers new challenges and a way to stay vital and sharp. But for others, it's a chance to ensure that they have considered all their financial needs for a successful retirement.

"Retired people today are living longer, more dynamic lives. So it's important to make sure that you've planned your retirement accordingly," said Michael Aziz, regional vice-president of sales investment products at Desjardins Financial Security.

"Today, mature workers are often working well into their 80s. This provides them with a great opportunity to solidify their retirement plans, ensuring that their transition is financially sound."

Retirement tends to span up to 30 years for the average retiree. These easy steps will help mature workers prepare for the next phase in their lives.

- Estate planning: This ensures that your children and grandchildren receive a solid inheritance that isn't whittled away by after-death taxes.
- Fine-tune your retirement income strategy: At the age of 71, your RSP account must be collapsed into a RRIF or Registered Retirement Income Fund. The goal at this time should be to protect your assets while maintaining some flexibility. Take time to consider the different products available and select the one that best suits your needs.
- Worry-free retirement funds: Consider investing in a guaranteed minimum withdrawal benefit (GMWB) product. It is an investment that offers capital growth and safety, while providing guaranteed withdrawals regardless of how the market performs. Contract holders may choose to withdraw 7 per cent of their initial investment over 15 years. If the market is doing well, they have the option to increase the number of years they receive payments, or they can collapse their account. GMWB products are RIF eligible.

"Retired people today are living longer, more dynamic lives. So it's important to make sure that you've planned your retirement accordingly." Michael Aziz

"People are now living longer, which can mean that retirement can last 20 to 30 years," said Aziz. "By implementing these essential strategies, they will find that their transition into retirement will be built on a solid financial foundation. And this truly is the secret to a happy and prosperous future."

NEWS CANADA

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Report cards can be stressful for families

The first report card of the school year is almost here. It's an important milestone in the school year, but the waiting and the wondering can be very stressful for families. After all, the report card's imminent arrival could mean some potentially shocking and unpleasant surprises.

For students, a bad grade on the report card could mean punishment and restrictions on extracurricular activities.

For parents, poor grades are a source of concern and worry — is their child facing an educational roadblock that could put dreams and plans for the future on hold? Or worse, eliminate possibilities for the future altogether?

Adding to the stress is the fact that for most families, report cards can be confusing. Changing curriculum and reporting standards mean that the report card is filled with jargon and terms that mean essentially nothing to a parent.

"Report cards today are not the same report cards that parents remember from when they were children, which can make reading report cards an exercise in frustration," said Dr. Nick Whitehead, founder of Oxford Learning.

"Reporting requirements have changed a lot and to make matters worse, report cards seem like they are written in gobbledygook. It just makes them that much more confusing."

Typically, report cards are upheld as the ultimate indicator of student progress — but they do have their limitations. The report card is but a single snapshot of a child's progress up to a given point and is not a complete picture of a child's potential. Whitehead recommends that parents consider the first report card of the year as warning sign; if there are any issues with poor grades, take action now.

"Parents need to remember that there is still plenty of time to get back on track. It's a key thing to remember and it can greatly reduce report card stress," said Whitehead.

NEWS CANADA

Report card tips

- Sit down and review together. Make sure there are no distractions so you can focus on one another and the conversation.
- Don't get upset. If you're upset or angry about grades, hold the discussion until you can speak calmly and rationally.
- Start with empathetic and positive comments. Highlight something positive about the report card, no matter how trivial. For instance, "we are pleased with your spelling grade."
- Listen. Recognize your child's struggles. School can be tough. It is helpful to students to know that someone is listening to their concerns.
- End with a plan. Be optimistic and identify any next steps before you leave the table.

NEWS CANADA

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Gossip Girl's new guy
John Patrick Amedori is set to appear in four episodes of Gossip Girl (the first airs Oct. 27) as Aaron Rose, a new beau for Blake Lively's Serena van der Woodsen. PEOPLE.COM

Entertainment

New designs
Kate Winslet is to play fashion designer Vivienne Westwood in an upcoming movie, which will document Westwood's rise to fame in the 1970s up to the present day. IMDB.COM

EDITOR: TINA COSTANZA, TINA.COSTANZA@METRONEWS.CA

Box office

Estimated weekend ticket sales at U.S. and Canadian theatres:

1. **Beverly Hills Chihuahua** $29 million US
2. **Eagle Eye:** $17.7 million
3. **Nick and Norah's Infinite Playlist:** $12 million
4. **Nights in Rodanthe:** $7.4 million
5. **Appaloosa:** $5 million
6. **Lakeview Terrace:** $4.5 million
7. **Burn After Reading:** $4.08 million
8. **Fireproof:** $4.07 million
9. **An American Carol:** $3.8 million
10. **Religulous:** $3.5 million

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAFTA to honour Cheadle, Swinton

MOVIES Actors Don Cheadle and Tilda Swinton, and filmmaker Stephen Frears will be honoured by the British Academy of Film and Television Arts/Los Angeles (BAFTA) at a ceremony in Hollywood in November, imdb.com reports.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

DeGrassi rings the bell

Class of younger students injects new life into high school series

As DeGrassi: The Next Generation rolls into its eighth season, it's introducing, well, a next generation.

A fresh new class of brainy Grade 9 overachievers is among the changes coming this season (which premiered last night on CTV) on a series that continues to chronicle teen angst and channel it out to millions of fans around the globe.

With seven seasons in the can, longtime executive producer Linda Schuyler said the show's creative team "decided to stir up the school right from its very heart."

"It's almost like seven years is a generation. One of the things we were thinking about as we went out to plan our Season 8 was to bring new life into the school," she said.

"I don't think there's been a year since the first season that we were so committed to such a big influx of younger students. We've introduced one or two here or there, but this is a big influx of students and we were very committed to having a strong presence of the ninth graders," Schuyler said of the decision to bring in nine new faces.

CTV PHOTO

Dalmar Abuzeid as Danny and Nina Dobrev as Mia in a scene from DeGrassi: The Next Generation.

The eighth season will also follow the tribulations of dorm life for three veteran cast members who have graduated to Smithdale College.

Another big change is the replacement of level-headed principal Mrs. Hatzilakos with a new guy, The Shep, a brash, football-loving jock whose disdain for scholarly pursuits will put him at odds with the existing administration and the new cadre of brainiacs.

Producers are also working on a four-episode story arc that takes some of the cast members to Hollywood, where they'll hook up with two longtime DeGrassi fanatics, director/actor Kevin Smith and sidekick Jason Mewes (who have previously appeared on the series).

Stefan Brogren, who played Snake in the series' previous incarnation, DeGrassi High, and has since returned to the series as a regular, teacher Mr. Simpson, has been charged with the task of writing and directing the quartet of episodes.

Much of the advance work on the Hollywood segments has already been shot at various locations around Toronto, Brogren said.

"We doubled Toronto for Hollywood for a lot of it. It's amazing what a couple of palm trees can do," Brogren said with a laugh.

But it still means a four-day "guerrilla" shoot in Los Angeles to capture images of those places that are "so iconically Hollywood," he said.

"God knows, the kids are fairly popular there (in the U.S., where the show airs on The N cable channel), so we're probably going to have a little security if they're standing in front of Mann's Chinese Theatre. It's funny, that wouldn't happen in Canada."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Get snapping!

Clean your camera lens and get snapping on the theme of **'Urban Jungle'** and take part in the Metro Global Photo Challenge. The best photo will **win a 5 day trip for two to Paris, a cash prize of $2,000 CDN** and the publication* of their portfolio across 21 Metro editions worldwide, reaching 20 million readers.

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Hasselbeck dismisses rumours

The View co-host Elisabeth Hasselbeck has dismissed rumours she is set to leave the popular daytime show. Hasselbeck was reportedly tempted to leave the show for a stint at Fox News channel after they offered her a high-profile position. **IMDB.COM**

Castroneves puts legal woes aside

Helio Castroneves was back behind the wheel Saturday, a day after the two-time Indy 500 winner pleaded not guilty on tax evasion charges.

GETTY IMAGES

Helio Castroneves, the two-time Indianapolis 500 winner and TV Dancing With The Stars champion.

Out on $10 million US bail after he was indicted on charges of conspiracy and six counts of tax evasion for purportedly failing to report to the IRS about $5.5 million in income between 1999 and 2004, the Dancing with the Stars champion was in suburban Atlanta for the American Le Mans Series Petit Le Mans at Road Atlanta.

Not only was he back on track, but he was back in the winner's circle as well.

Castroneves and teammate Ryan Briscoe outpaced the rest of the cars to finish first in the Le Mans Prototype 2 Class.

"It has been a difficult two days, but to finish first, it turned out to be a good day," Castroneves said. "It was a great day, and we're going to continue to move forward."

Terms of Castroneves' release allowed him to race at Petit Le Mans, and other races in the United States but not abroad, meaning he will likely miss a race later this month in Australia, said his lawyer Mark Seiden.

"Having Helio here today was important, especially in the situation he's in," team owner Roger Penske said. "He was focused all day, and that's what's important to us."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cole released from hospital

Natalie Cole, who suffers from hepatitis C, is resting at her Los Angeles home after being released from the hospital earlier this week, Cole's representative said Friday.

Natalie Cole

Publicist Maureen O'Connor said the Grammy-winning singer checked out several days ago and is "feeling a lot better."

The 58-year-old daughter of jazz legend Nat King Cole entered a New York hospital Sept. 12.

O'Connor said Cole has been receiving kidney dialysis that isn't related to her struggle with hepatitis C, a liver disease spread through contact with infected blood.

Cole announced in July that she was suffering from the disease, revealed to her during a routine examination, and that it was likely caused by her drug use years ago.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Letting off some steam

Is complaining a 'peace harmer' or 'peace enhancer'?

HineSight

Anne Hines

I'm a great believer in inspirational sayings. Little phrases that sum up what life's truly about and the attitude you want to bring to it. Like, "When life gives you lemons, break out the gin and tonic." Or "I'm worth it. At least once it goes on sale."

Until recently, I've lived life by one deeply truthful saying: That which does not kill me makes me whinier.

"I've lived life by one deeply truthful saying: That which does not kill me makes me whinier."

But now, I've seen the light. And it's purple.

I was flipping television channels on the kind of night when you realize that if you're watching Yugoslavian women's volleyball finals, it means you're just too tired to go to bed.

I came across one of those southern Baptist evangelical preaching shows. I love those shows. The world seems a simpler place when you take out all those confusing issues like choice and thinking.

Anyway, this minister was promoting a new purple bracelet campaign.

He explained that what's wrong with the world isn't poverty, violence, injustice or not being able to take a deep breath 20 years from now. Apparently, what's wrong is that we all complain too much.

Complaints are bad. They are "peace harmers." You see, this is where this program is helpful because previously I thought they were opinions.

So, what we do is order one of these purple plastic bracelets, which I did, and every time we complain we move the bracelet from one wrist to the other.

This is supposed to train us not to complain any more, which sounds easy but it's actually really hard. You see? That was complaining. I have to move my bracelet.

A woman on the TV program said that she managed not to complain for a month. Unfortunately, her husband told her she was no fun. It didn't say if she was fun before that. Some people aren't. Wait. Is that complaining?

I have to move the bracelet. But maybe it's just telling the truth. I should move it back. This is complicated. Shoot. I have to move it again.

This is making me nuts. Shoot. Other wrist. And, isn't complaining sometimes "peace enhancing"? Letting off steam is all that gets us through some of life's trickiest situations, like driving in traffic or attending family gatherings. At least without police intervention.

I'm moving the bracelet – to the trash bin.

But it's amazing how well that thing worked. I feel more peaceful already.

Could what's wrong in the world be attributed to complaining, our columnist asks.

Anne Hines is an author and humour writer. She has written three novels and one collection of non-fiction humour.

Newman remembered by fans in cyberspace

TRIBUTE When Paul Newman died last week, the outpouring of grief was universal and that included the Internet, where fans posted their memories of Newman.

Many posted their favourite clips of Newman on YouTube while others wrote about him on their websites.

But two sites have sought to collect such expressions of sorrow for when icons, as well as family members and friends, die.

Tributes.com was started in late September by Jeff Taylor, who founded the job search site *Monster.com*. By culling from the Social Security Administration's Death Index, the site has the dates on which 84 million Americans died, going back more than a century.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In brief

STRIKE OVER A strike in India's Bollywood film and TV industry is over after executives agreed to implement better pay and working conditions for staff, imdb.com reports. Production on both movies and TV shows ground to a halt last week after thousands walked out. **METRO NEWS SERVICE**

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Fergie makes a film
British royal Sarah Ferguson has produced a movie about late monarch Queen Victoria. The Duchess of York teamed up with director Martin Scorsese to produce The Young Victoria, which stars Emily Blunt. IMDB.COM

Judge bars Anna Nicole's breast surgery tapes

A judge ordered a Texas doctor and his wife on Friday not to distribute videotaped footage of Anna Nicole Smith's breast augmentation surgery in 1994.

The order settles a lawsuit filed last year by Howard K. Stern, the executor of Smith's estate, who was trying to stop Dr. Gerald Johnson and his wife from distributing the tapes of the former Playboy Playmate.

Stern maintained that Smith never consented to the taping or to allowing the footage to be seen by Los Angeles memorabilia dealer Thomas Riccio, who got tapes from the Johnson, according to court records.

Johnson said he gave Riccio permission to use the video, scored to the theme from Jaws, after Smith died in 2007.

Larry Birkhead, who fathered Smith's daughter, called the video "truly disgusting" in a sworn declaration. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Three men charged in book plot

LEGAL Three men charged with plotting to attack the publisher of a novel about one of the Prophet Muhammad's wives made a brief court appearance Friday and were returned to custody.

Ali Beheshti, 40, Abrar Mirza, 22, and Abbas Taj, 30, were charged late Thursday with plotting to damage the offices of Gibson Square publishers.

Beheshti was also charged with possession of a weapon designed or adapted for the discharge of a noxious liquid or gas — reportedly a gasoline bomb. No one was injured in the incident.

The suspects' next appearance at City of Westminster Magistrates Court was set for Oct. 17.

They were arrested early Sept. 27 under anti-terrorism laws but were not charged with any terrorist offences.

Gibson Square had announced on Sept. 8 that it would publish The Jewel of Medina by U.S. journalist Sherry Jones. The novel focuses on the prophet's very young wife Aisha.

Random House Inc., which had planned to publish the book in the United States. But it changed its mind after what it called "credible and unrelated sources" warned that the book "could incite acts of violence by a small, radical segment."

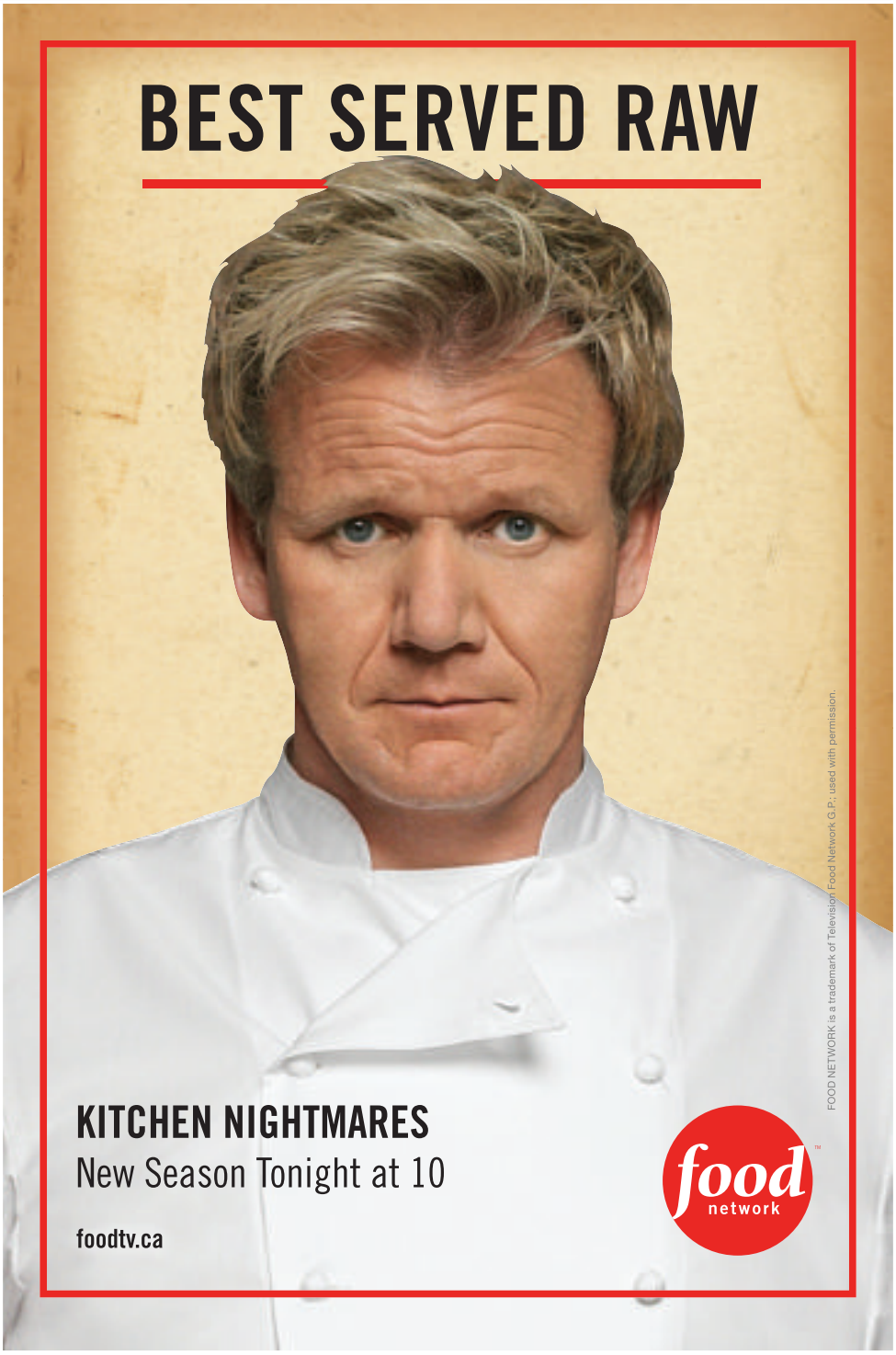
U.S. publisher Beaufort said it would publish the book on Oct. 15.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In brief

TOUR Janet Jackson has cancelled her fourth show in less than a week because of an undisclosed illness. A statement from Jackson said she arrived in Greensboro, N.C., hoping to perform there Saturday night, but a local doctor advised that she not perform after it became evident she was not fully recovered. Representatives for the 42-year-old singer say she became suddenly ill and was hospitalized last Monday night in Montreal.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS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Blind people shouldn't take offence to movie, author says

FILM A Nobel literature laureate says protests about a film of his book "Blindness" are unfounded and misguided.

Portuguese author Jose Saramago says threats by a U.S. association of blind people to picket theatres showing the movie are "a display of meanness based on nothing at all."

The Baltimore-based National Federation of the Blind has said it plans to protest the movie when it is released Friday, because the film portrays the blind as monsters.

Saramago said on Friday that "stupidity doesn't choose between the blind and the non-blind."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

British pop stars unite

RIGHTS Some of Britain's biggest music stars are banding together to demand greater control over their music in the digital age.

Radiohead, Robbie Williams and Kaiser Chiefs are among more than 60 founding members of the Featured Artists' Coalition.

The group says it wants musicians rather than record labels to retain control over the rights to their music.

It says new technology is rapidly changing the music industry, and artists are often left out when their songs are distributed over the Internet or mobile phone networks.

"It is time for artists to have a strong collective voice to stand up for their interests." Brian Message

Musicians are increasingly turning to the Internet — and sometimes bypassing traditional record labels — to distribute their music.

Brian Message, co-manager of Radiohead, says artists need to have more say.

"It is time for artists to have a strong collective voice to stand up for their interests.

"The digital landscape is changing fast and new deals are being struck all the time," he said.

"But all too often without reference to the people who actually make the music."

Radiohead released the In Rainbows album through the band's website, and Oasis is offering its new album, Dig Out Your Soul, on social networking site MySpace before its official release.

Billy Bragg, Iron Maiden and Pink Floyd guitarist David Gilmour are among signatories to the coalition's founding charter.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Wrong picture of Choi Jin-Sil used

PEOPLE Metro ran a photo on Friday that incorrectly identified actress Choi Jin-sil.

Choi Jin-sil

Her correct photo appears here.

Metro regrets the error.

METRO TORONTO

Bentley's first child born

Country star Dierks Bentley and wife Cassidy welcomed their first child, Evalyn Day Bentley, just before midnight on Saturday at a hospital in Nashville, Tenn. **PEOPLE.COM**

Entertainment in brief

EARNINGS J.K. Rowling is the world's highest-earning author, making more than five pounds (nine dollars) every second over the past year, U.S. business magazine Forbes has announced. The Harry Potter writer, who made a total of $300 million last year, wrote the first of her best-selling books about the boy wizard in 1997. Her income was six times more than literature's next-biggest earner, James Patterson, of Along Came A Spider fame. **BBC NEWS ONLINE**

Avid readers come together

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Reading may be a private experience but sharing its joys doesn't have to be.

Book clubs can be a great way to combine a love for books with a fun social setting that lets you celebrate great books by probing their depths with like-minded people.

Lisa Huie, spokesperson for Indigo Books & Music Inc, says book clubs have evolved into full-fledged intellectual escapes shared by adults with a love of reading, a far cry from the after-school homework crowd.

"They've become a really great social activity that connects people with common interests," Huie said.

The growth in popularity of book clubs in recent years certainly owes a debt to daytime host and admitted book-lover Oprah Winfrey, who almost single-handedly resurrected the practice in the mid-1990s with her own book club segment on her popular talk show.

A new survey by Indigo shows fall is the biggest reading season as the colder weather starts to push people and their activity plans indoors, where according to the survey 72 per cent of book club meetings happen. The survey also found an average book club has eight members and reads roughly eight books per year.

Joel Silver, head book-buyer for Indigo, said most readers surveyed said they got into their book club because they enjoyed sharing opinions about books with other avid readers.

"Members value the social aspect of the book club experience as well as the insights and ideas that group discussions generate," Silver said.

If you plan to start your own book club, Huie suggests planning ahead but keeping it mostly casual.

"You do want to have a bit of structure, but keep things open enough to include everybody's opinion," Huie said.

Book clubs have evolved into full-fledged intellectual escapes shared by adults.

Other tips:

- Make sure your book list is selected democratically. Allow every member to choose at least one book for the club to read.
- Aim for ambiance and comfort: scented candles, comfortable seating and plenty of tea will go a long way to keep members happy and relaxed.

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Smart is a savvy read

BookPicks

The Smart Cookies' Guide to Making More Dough

Author(s): Andrea Baxter, Angela Self, Katie Dunsworth, Robyn Gunn and Sandra Hanna with Jennifer Barrett
Publisher: Random House
Price: $29.99 (Hardcover)

The Smart Cookies who appear on their own eponymous show on W Network and write a regular column in Metro have broadened their publishing portfolio with a new guide for maximizing your income. Joined by Newsweek editor Jennifer Barrett, the group covers a variety of topics in the social spending and financial planning realms. The Smart Cookies open with beginning to speak about money and shift to envisioning and creating your desired lifestyle. The group continues to delve into controlled spending, proper investment practices and understanding property value. Conversational but correct, The Smart Cookies' guide lives up to their savvy and sweet name.

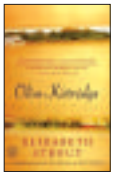
Reading by Lightning

Author: Joan Thomas
Publisher: Goose Lane Editions
Price: $22.95 (Paperback)

Longtime Globe and Mail book critic Joan Thomas turns the tables by releasing her first fictional work, Reading by Lightning. National Magazine Award-winning Thomas introduces the maturative first-person narrative that follows Lily Piper. She's the Prairie-born daughter of devoutly religious parents whom she can't help but deviate from. Her variance only increases when she moves to England to care for her grandmother shortly before the Second World War breaks out. Despite uncertainty about her own future, Lily struggles to grow into her own skin and beat a path into adulthood.

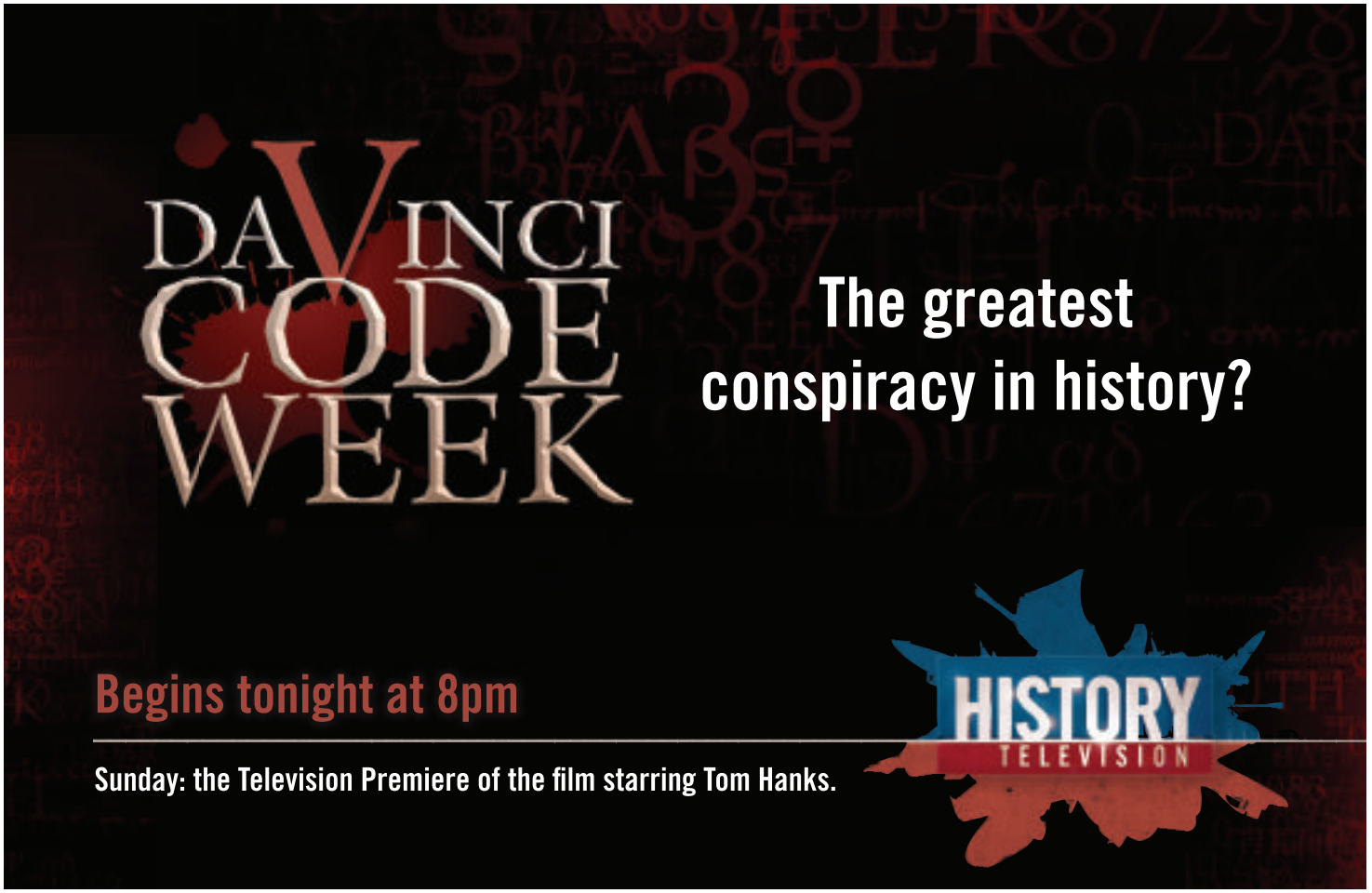
Olive Kitteridge

Author: Elizabeth Strout
Publisher: Random House
Price: $16.50 (Paperback)



From the author of Orange Prize short-listed Amy and Isabelle comes a new collection of short stories that weave together to paint an all-embracing portrait of protagonist Olive Kitteridge. The less than likable retired math teacher is presented throughout the novel in terms of those who surround her. Set against a New England landscape, Olive's musings on characters including her grown son and husband construct Olive's existence and convictions.

Brian Coulton/for Metro Canada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The greatest conspiracy in history?
Begins tonight at 8pm
Sunday: the Television Premiere of the film starring Tom Hanks.
HISTORY
TELEVISION

Chinese Lantern Festival
At Ontario Place, 32 large-scale lanterns are on display. Runs to Oct. 12, Thurs. and Fri. 6 p.m.-10 p.m., Sat. and Sun. 5 p.m.-10 p.m. ($20-$25). 955 Lake Shore Blvd. Info: 416-314-9900. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

theatre

AGOKWE Explores unrequited love between teenage boys from reserves. To Oct. 12. Tue.-Sat. 8 p.m.; Sun. 2:30 p.m. $20-$29; PWYC Sun. Buddies in Bad Times Theatre, 12 Alexander. 416-975-8555.

AMAKHOSI, THE KINGS OF AFRICA African legends told through dance, mime and acrobatics. To Oct. 12. Sat., Wed. 7:30 p.m.; Sat. 3 p.m.; Sun. 5 p.m. $20-$70. Downsview Park. 416-952-2222.

CALIFORNIA SUITE Neil Simon comedy set in the Beverly Hills Hotel. To Oct. 11. Thu.-Sat. 8 p.m.; Sun. 2 p.m. $15-$25. Fairview Public Library Theatre, 35 Fairview Mall, North York. 416-299-5557.

THE CRACKWALKER The story of a mentally challenged girl in Kingston. To Oct. 11. Tue.-Sat. 8 p.m.; Sat. 2:30 p.m. $15-$20; Tue. PWYC. Theatre Passe Muraille Backspace, 16 Ryerson. 416-504-7529.

AN EVENING WITH UNCLE VAL One-man comedy featuring retired fisherman Andy Jones. Oct. 1-19. Wed. 8 p.m. Preview $15. $30-$35. Theatre Passe Muraille, 16 Ryerson. 416-504-7529.

GHOSTS AND LADDERS Boy conquers his fear of heights. To Oct. 11. Mon.-Thu. 10:15 a.m.; Wed.-Thu. 1 p.m. $15-$20. Lorraine Kimsa Theatre for Young People, 165 Front St. E. 416-862-2222.

KING LEAR Titular character struggles with the betrayal of his daughters in Shakespeare's tragedy. Oct. 1-18. Wed. 8 p.m. $12/$20. Hart House Theatre, 7 Hart House. 416-978-8849.

OFFENSIVE SHADOWS Contemporary sequel to A Midsummer Night's Dream. To Oct. 19. Tue.-Sat. 8 p.m.; Sun. 2:30 p.m. Sun. PWYC; $15-$35. Tarragon Theatre Extra Space, 30 Bridgman. 416-531-1827.

WIT Scholar deals with her cancer diagnosis. To Oct. 11. Wed.-Sat. 8 p.m.; Sun. 2 p.m. $20. Wed., Thu. 2 for 1; Sun PWYC. Alumnae Theatre, 70 Berkley. 416-364-4170.

SCRATCH A girl's mother is dying while she has lice. Oct. 4-Nov. 2. Sat., Tue., Wed. 8 p.m.; Sun. 7 p.m. $15. Factory Mainspace Theatre, 125 Bathurst. 416-504-9971.

SLEEPING BEAUTY Prince Charming saves the princess from the Fairy Queen. Oct. 4-19. 11 a.m., 2 p.m. $13. Solar Stage Children's Theatre, 4950 Yonge St. 416-368-8031.

THE SOUND OF MUSIC A love story set in pre-WWII Austria. Oct. 3-Jan. 11. Tue. & Wed., Fri. & Sat. 7:30 p.m.; Wed. 1:30 p.m. $26-$120. Princess of Wales Theatre, 300 King St. W. 416-416-872-1212.

WILD DOGS An unlikely group forms a community until violence strikes. Oct. 4-Nov. 8. Mon.-Sat. 8 p.m.; Sat. 2 p.m.; Wed. 1:30 p.m. $20-$42; Mon PWYC. Berkley Theatre, Downstairs, 26 Berkley. 416-531-1827.

ANNE & GILBERT: THE MUSICAL Based on the sequels to Anne of Green Gables. Oct. 7-9. Tue. & Wed. 8 p.m. $45-$60. Rose Theatre, 1 Theatre, Brampton. 905-874-2800.

BLACK RIDER A stern father sets the terms for his daughter's marriage. Oct. 8-Nov. 16. Preview Wed. 8 p.m. $19. Tarragon Theatre, 30 Bridgman. 416-531-1827.

BOEING BOEING A Parisian architect juggles three airline stewardess fiancees. To Nov. 23. Wed.-Sat. 8:15 p.m.; Wed. & Sun. 12:30 p.m.; Sun. 6:45 p.m. $51-$79.99. Stage West Hotel Theatre, 5400 Dixie, Mississauga. 905-238-0042.

FAMOUS PUPPET DEATH SCENES A collection of famous puppet death scenes. Oct. 7-16. Tue. & Wed. 8 p.m. $5-$30. Young Centre, Michael Young Theatre, 55 Mill, bldg 49. 416-866-8666.

FIBBER Explores the relationship between truth we seek and untruth we depend on. Oct. 2-18. Tue., Thu.-Sat. 8 p.m. Tue. & Thu. $18-$20; Fri. & Sat. $22-$25. Theatre Centre, 1087 Queen St. W. 416-260-4660.

GESTATION SERIES Monthly script reading series. Oct. 6. Mon. 7 p.m. for performers; 8 p.m. for audience. PWYC. Cameron House, 408 Queen St. W. 416-726-5085. www.cheshireunicorn.com.

galleries

69 OLIVE Thinly Veiled: New and vintage works by Deb Wiles. To Oct. 27. 69 Olive. 416-537-9483.

HARBOURFRONT CENTRE Arcade: Science-based works by Panya Clark Espinal, John Dickson, Alex Geddie, more. Dance Dance Revolutions Company: Video installations of people dancing in their basements. I Stand on Guard: Multiculturally-themed photos by Mona Kamal. Personal Space: Lateral architecture by Donald Chong. In 2x6: Drawings by Craft Studio artists. Bye-Bye + Celestial Echoes: Photos by Michelle Sank. I don't ever want this to end: Prints by Genevieve Jodouin. All until Nov 9. 235 Queen's Quay W. 416-973-4000.

PREFIX Projection: A video instalment by French artist Laurent Grasso. To Nov. 22. 401 Richmond St. W., suite 124. 647-430-5888.

STUDIO NINE GALLERY Photos by Andrew Hind. To Nov. 13. 1400 Queen St. E. 416-465-4085.

CONVENIENCE GALLERY Parkdale International Art Fair: Group show. To Oct. 26. 58 Landsdowne. 416-533-8385.

DELEON WHITE GALLERY The Paint of Pleasure: Installation by Sylvana Jaja. To Oct. 25. 1139 College St.

LOOP GALLERY Playing Off the Grid: Paintings by Elizabeth Babyn. Last Garden: Charcoal drawings and reliquary-themed sculptures by Mark Adair. To Oct. 19. 1174 Queen St. W. 416-516-2581.

SIDE SPACE GALLERY Shine: Group exhibit by artists who have been employed at Art Starts Neighbourhood Cultural Centre. To Oct 30. 1080 St. Clair Ave. W.

ART INTERIORS Style Maker Exhibit: Showcasing 15 works chosen by 15 style makers, celebrating the gallery's 15th anniversary. To Oct. 7. 466 Spadina Rd., suite 203. 416-488-3157.

LOCAL LISTINGS BY:
EYE WEEKLY

Kid Rock gives nod to Detroit

• Kid Rock sends the Motor City a love letter with the release of the video for his song Rock On. The video, shot last summer and released Friday, offers iconic Detroit images, from the towers of the Renaissance Center to the remains of the Michigan Central railroad terminal. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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• Persian	416-650-5800	• Ukrainian	416-650-0400
• Korean	416-650-0900	• Italian	416-650-1400

Karen and Jack are back

Former Will and Grace co-stars Megan Mullally and Sean Hayes are set to star in a spinoff of the hit comedy. The pair will reprise their roles in Karen and Jack, which is in development at NBC. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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U.S., Canadian debates face off

IntelleVision

Rick McGinnis
rick.mcginnis@metronews.ca

ARGUING FOR DOLLARS: Scheduling the English leaders' debate the same night the U.S. vice-presidential candidates faced off might have been a dumb move, but it was a typically Canadian one, kind of like putting an Air Farce special up against the season finale of Lost, complaining that there was, of course, never a chance in hell of comparable ratings, and even taking perverse pride in the humiliation as a Canadian identity-building exercise.

You had to admire the Pollyannaish pluck of Steve Paikin, moderator of the Canadian debate, just before the credits began rolling, when he blurted out that, "This was way better than Biden and Palin, I'm sure of it!" The funny thing was that he was kinda right.

The formats couldn't have been more different — a stately stand-up at duelling podiums that allowed candidates to state and re-state their positions and respond at length versus a roundtable pile-on that resembled the family dinner you're still trying to forget more than any coherent discussion. Anyone who still cherishes the self-serving but deluded myth that Canadians are more civil than our American neighbours — which is to say anyone who's never witnessed the medieval bear-baiting that is Question Period on Parliament Hill — should have had that definitively debunked after Thursday night.

Every candidate seemed to have gone in with some folksy catchphrase or gotcha punchline loaded and chambered: "You panicked!" "I call that the ultimate bridge to nowhere." "Laissez-faire, I don't care." "Joe Six-Pack, hockey moms." "I want my Canada back!" "Say it ain't so, Joe!" It was like they were competing to write gags for the inevitable Saturday Night Live or Rick Mercer parody to come, though the fact that SNL had its ready to air two days later is probably an endorsement of private versus publicly-funded broadcasting.

Bloc Québécois Leader Gilles Duceppe had no real reason to be there except protocol, but his stinging observation that at least he wasn't under any illusion that he'd be prime minister one day — unlike the other three candidates not named Harper — was a welcome shaft of clarity and light through a fog of rhetoric and slap-fighting.

Sarah Palin might not have deprived Tina Fey of any material to work with, but she blew past any idea that she's a lightweight on the campaign trail, and Joe Biden probably regretted his apparent decision not to risk coming off as a bully. By the end, though, I'd gotten bored with the U.S. debates as the candidates started to sound like tired fighters swinging blindly at each other, while the Canadian debates remained gripping — if horrifying — theatre right till the end. The fact that I was able to watch both — viewing one live and TiVoing the other for later, with pauses to write notes and hit the john — instead of making a hard choice between the two did, however, make me long for the pre-VHS, 8-channel dawn-of-cable world of the '70s, a near-luddite nostalgia for which I was completely unprepared.

Rick McGinnis writes about music, movies, books and television, but not opera.

In brief

HEALTH TV personality Rachael Ray has shot down reports she's battling throat cancer, insisting she is "the picture of health," imdb.com reports. Tabloid The National Enquirer recently claimed the Emmy-winning lifestyle show host was to undergo surgery on her throat amid fears she had cancer.

Rachel Ray

METRO NEWS SERVICES

TO	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime 10/6/08	265	353	2	TVO	Time Team		The Agenda With Steve Paikin		Midsomer Murders		For King and Country		Agenda-Paikin
	211	331	3	GTV	ET Canada	Entertainment	Prison Break (N)		Heroes (HDTV) (N)		Life (HDTV) (N)		News (N)
	215	343	4	OMN1	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons	News (N)		Vivere Il	News (N)	The Simpsons	King of the Hill	Metropia
	210	302	6	CBC	Coronation St.	Jeopardy! (N)	Dragon's Den (N)		The Border (N)		CBC News: The National		The Hour
	214	344	7	CITY	Law & Order: SVU		Chuck (HDTV) (N)		Celebrity Fit Club		Curb-Enthsm	Role	News (N)
	212	313	8	CTV	etalk	Hollywood	Dancing With the Stars Celebrities perform.				CSI: Miami (HDTV) (N)		News (N)
	218	345	11	E!	The Insider (N)	E! News	'Til Death	How I Met	How I Met	Worst Week	(10:01) Boston Legal		News (N)
	137	763	13	TFO	Panorama		Carnets d'expédition		*Nue propriété* ★★★ (2006, Drame) Isabelle Huppert.				Croisée
	-	-	14	-	Cold Case		News (N)		News (N)		Two/Half Men	Friends	Voice
	213	326	15	SUN	Becker	George Lopez	Funniest Pets	Funniest Pets	Privileged (HDTV)		To Serve and Protect		Grill Rm.
	-	387	16	CBS	Inside Edition	Hollywood	Big Bang Th	How I Met	Two/Half Men	Worst Week	CSI: Miami (HDTV) (N)		News (N)
	-	385	17	NBC	The Insider (N)	Entertainment	Chuck (HDTV) (N)		Heroes (HDTV) (N)		Life (HDTV) (N)		News (N)
	-	386	18	ABC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Dancing With the Stars Celebrities perform.				Boston Legal (HDTV) (N)		News
	219	346	20	ACH-B	Robson Arms	TMZ (N)	Sarah Connor Chronicles		Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	America's Toughest Jobs (N)		News (N)
	-	-	28	FOX	Judge Judy (N)	Two/Half Men	Sarah Connor Chronicles		Prison Break (N)		Seinfeld	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons
	-	388	61	PBS	News-Lehrer	Time Goes By	Antiques Roadshow		The History Project		On a Wind and a Prayer		Business Rpt.
	297	652	330	WPX	Two/Half Men	Family Guy	Gossip Girl (HDTV)		Privileged (HDTV)		CW11 News at Ten		Two/Half Men
	296	654	331	SBK	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Dr. Phil (HDTV)		WBZ News (N)	'70s Show	Frasier	Frasier	Punk'd
	298	653	332	TLA	Jamie Foxx	Wayans Bros.	My Wife-Kids	According-Jim	Family Guy	Family Guy	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Gossip Girl
news	502	390	26	NW	CBC News: Around the World		Canada Votes: Your Turn		CBC News: The National		Carbon Traders		National
	500	500	33	CNN	Lou Dobbs Tonight		CNN Election Center		Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)		
	509	504	79	CNB	Kudlow & Company		On the Money		Asia Squawk Box		The Big Idea With Deutsch		Mad Money
sports	405	417	22	net	(6) MLB Baseball Division Series -- Teams TBA. (Live)						MLB Baseball Division Series -- Teams TBA. (Live)		
	400	400	30	TSN	That's Hockey!	Monday Night Countdown			NFL Football Minnesota Vikings at New Orleans Saints. (HDTV) (Live)				
	411	457	58	OLN	Ed's Up	Videos	The Search		Mantracker		Departures "Canada"		Pilot Guides
	417	406	81	SC	Pinks	Pass Time	This Week in NASCAR (N)		Big Shots: Titans at the Tee		Barrett-Jackson		Pinks (HDTV)
family	551	542	25	YTV	Malcolm-Mid.	Home Improve.	Malcolm-Mid.	Fresh Prince	Futurama	Prank Patrol	Mystery Hnt.	Adrenaline Proj	Mystery Hnt.
	554	544	45	TEL	George-Jungle	Bugs Bunny & Tweety Show		6teen	Total Drama	Futurama	American Dad	Robot Chicken	Life's a Zoo
	556	540	51	FAM	Wizards-Place	That's-Raven	Zack & Cody	Natural-Sadie	Han. Montana	Life Derek	Ned's School	Cory in House	Zack & Cody
cable variety	602	567	27	W	Will & Grace	Friends	How Clean	House	Love It or List It (N)		Real Est	Kim	Save Us-House
	570	580	29	MM	Legally Blonde		MuchTopTens		MuchNews	The NewMusic	VH1 Hip Hop Honors (N)		
	615	520	31	A&E	CSI: Miami "Broken"		Intervention "Leslie"		Intervention "Dan"		Intervention "Lawrence"		Meth in City
	700	800	35	TLN	Centrovetrine	Sky TG 24	Pobre Millonaria		Amor Comprado		Raymond	Raymond	George Lopez
	571	581	36	MMM	mmmtop	Revival	Listed		Where You At	Revival	Gene Simmons	Gene Simmons	Party of Five
	575	583	38	CMT	All About ... (N)	Sessions	Home Improve.	Home Improve.	Reba	Reba	Hope & Faith	Hope & Faith	Ultimate Garth
	616	521	39	SHO	Love-Death	Love-Death	Painkiller Jane		Kenny-Spenny	Rent-A-Goalie	Name Is Earl	Name Is Earl	Name Is Earl
	620	523	40	BVO	Desperate Housewives		Baby Ballroom		Dance			7 - Solvents	Law & Order
	601	562	41	SLC	End of Leash	ET Canada	Til Debt-Part	Newlywed	Beautfl People	Party Mamas	Project Runway		Til Debt-Part
	522	506	43	HIS	NCIS "High Seas"		Beyond The Da Vinci Code				NCIS "High Seas"		Crime Stories
	625	548	44	COM	Air Farce	Just for Laughs		Corner Gas	The Simpsons	South Park	The Cho Show	Simple Life	Daily Show
	600	564	46	H&G	House Hunters	Property Virgin	My First Place	Home to Stay	Property Virgin	Marriage	Income Prop.	House Hunters	Holmes-Homes
	294	529	47	TBS	House-Payne	House-Payne	*Panic Room* ★★★ (2002, Suspense) Jodie Foster.				Cheers	Family Guy	Family Guy
	576	582	49	BET	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live		*Getting Played* (2005, Romance-Comedy) Carmen Electra.				Conversation	Movie Special	Judge Karen
	627	528	50	SPC	Lost "...In Translation"		Star Trek		Battlestar Galactica		Eureka (N)		Stargate SG-1
	581	566	52	MTV	The Hills	After	MTV News	Cribs	Exiled	The Hills	The Hills	After	MTV Live
	618	524	54	TROP	TV Made, Do It	Very Bad Men		What Happen?	Make or Break	TV Made, Do It	Planet Soap	Reality	Final 24
	603	561	56	FOOD	The Main	Chef at Home	Restaurant Makeover		Good Eats	Ace of Cakes	Kitchen Nightmares		Restaurant
	261	394	60	V	Murder, She Wrote		Prime Minister	May-December	McLeod's Daughters (N)		The Corporation		Mysterious Wy
	621	527	63	STR	The Ellen DeGeneres Show		TMZ (N)	etalk	Katie & Peter: Next Chapter		The Tonight Show-Jay Leno		TMZ
	553	546	65	TRE	Wonder Pets	Nght Grdn	Friend Rabbit	Franklin	Little Bear	Miss Spider	Comfy Couch	Rolie Polie Olie	Beren. Bears
	115	711	101	TVA	Les Auditions de Star Acadé		Annie et ses hommes (N) (SC)		Dr. House (HDTV) (SC)		TVA 22 heures	(10:45) Denis Lévesque	
	126	730	102	RDI	RDI en direct	Élections	Grands reportages (SC)		Le Téléjournal (SC)		RDI en direct	Le National	Le Téléjournal
	526	507	249	CLT	Judging Amy "Legacy"		Voices in Time	Ministers	The Color of War		Mysterious Ways		Judging Amy
	300	601	301	M1	(6) Sanctuary		Stargate Atlantis		Californication	Little Britain	Brotherhood		Atlantis
	305	612	306	PIX	(7:15) *Habitat* ★★ (1997, Science Fiction), Alice Krige				*Lolita* ★★★ (1962, Comedy-Drama) James Mason, Shelley Winters.				

critics' corner

CSI: Miami

So much for doctor-patient confidentiality. When the daughter of Delko's (Adam Rodriguez) therapist is murdered, Horatio (David Caruso) and the rest of the CSI team must find the killer before Delko's darkest secrets are exposed in the new episode "How Does That Make You Kill?" Frankly, we'd rather hear about Horatio's secrets. 10 PM on CTV

Chuck

In this new episode, Emmy winner John Larroquette guest stars as legendary debonair spy Roan Montgomery and Melinda Clarke guest stars as a sultry but dangerous spy called the Black Widow. Chuck (Zachary Levi) must learn the art of seduction from Montgomery so he can retrieve the Cipher from the Black Widow. Unfortunately, Montgomery isn't what he used to be. 8 PM on NBC CITY

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Stern marries longtime girlfriend
Radio shock jock Howard Stern and his longtime girlfriend Beth Ostrosky were married in New York City on Friday night, according to guests who attended the celebration. PEOPLE.COM

Celebrity Buzz

Miller getting over her fears

CELEBRITY Sienna Miller has conquered her phobia of watching herself on screen, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

"I used to be a lot more uncomfortable with watching myself on screen," the actress says. "You just have to relate it to when you hear your voice back on a tape machine and go, 'Oh God!' Multiply that by about 10,000 when you're watching yourself on a big screen. Now I try and be a lot more objective. There are certain bits that you look at and go, 'Eugh!' but I think it's almost more narcissistic to be like that. I'm trying to see it as a collaborative piece of work."

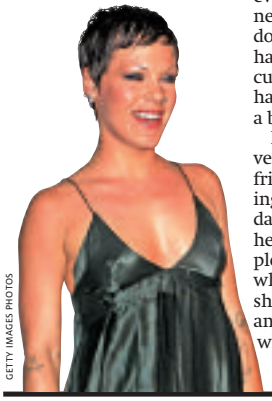
Miller also said she has no intention of slowing down and intends to star in as many movies as possible.

"So everything is busy at the moment, and fortunately I seem to have limitless amounts of energy," she says. "I don't know how I do it, but I can just keep going."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Pink's dating drought

DATING Pink "never" goes on dates, femalefirst.co.uk reports. The singer, who separated from husband Carey Hart earlier this year, prefers to meet men in less pressurized situations.



GETTY IMAGES PHOTOS

"I meet boys all over the place. It's just that I don't ever go on dates. I have never been on a date. I don't believe in that — it has to be organic. A barbecue, a show or whatever. I have never met anybody in a bar," she says.

However, Pink also revealed she has a number of friends who are attempting to persuade her to start dating. "Lately I have been hearing from a lot of people, like married couples, who have met in a bar," she says. "I'm always amazed. So maybe that is where I am going wrong."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Halliwell wants a baby

FAMILY Geri Halliwell wants a baby with her dancer boyfriend, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The former Spice Girl, who already has two-year-old daughter Bluebell Madonna with scriptwriter Sacha Gervasi, is keen to have a child with Ivan "Flipz" Velez, but is reportedly prepared to be a single mother again if their relationship ends.

"She wants a second child soon and says that if she falls pregnant with Flipz then it wouldn't be a problem," a source says. "At the moment they are besotted with each other and Flipz is keen on having a child with her."

Halliwell, who began dating Velez after he worked as a backing dancer on the Spice Girls reunion tour, is confident her beau will make a great father because he has bonded so well with Bluebell.

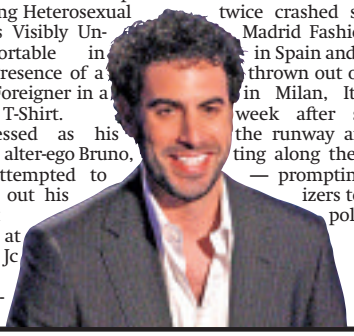
"He wants to be a permanent fixture in her life and Geri loves the fact he gets on so well with Bluebell," the source added. "She's got a perfect family unit and a baby would be the icing on the cake."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Baron Cohen strikes again

FILM Comedian Sacha Baron Cohen was ejected from a catwalk show during Paris Fashion Week in France on Friday after climbing on stage and attempting to slip a note to the models, imdb.com reports.

Cohen is filming scenes for his new movie Brüno: Delicious Journeys Through America for the Purpose of Making Heterosexual Males Visibly Uncomfortable in the Presence of a Gay Foreigner in a Mesh T-Shirt.



Dressed as his camp alter-ego Bruno, he attempted to carry out his latest stunt at the Jc De Caste-bajac show — scenes that are suspected to feature in his forthcoming comedy.

But he suffered a setback when the models and audience ignored his presence and continued despite the disturbance. Staff promptly ejected Cohen in what is his fourth attempt to disrupt a fashion show.

Dressed as Bruno, Cohen twice crashed shows at Madrid Fashion Week in Spain and was also thrown out of a show in Milan, Italy, last week after storming the runway and strutting along the catwalk — prompting organizers to call the police.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

celebrity briefs

McConaughey's new clothing line

FASHION Actor Matthew McConaughey has just launched a brand-new online store for his clothing line j.k. livin, People.com reports. The name takes its inspiration from McConaughey's 1993 film Dazed and Confused, while his father is the man stencilled into the line's logo. Jklivinstore.com has apparel for men and women, including sweatshirts and T-shirts, as well as accessories, infant onesies and even frisbees and wristbands.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Hurley a country gal at heart

LIFESTYLE Elizabeth Hurley has gone country, People.com reports. Inspired by her life with husband Arun Nayar and son Damian, 6, on their bio-dynamic farm in the English countryside, the actress-model, 43, tells People, she is "developing a line of products … with a view that they're not only going to be healthy, because they're organic, but I'm obsessed that women find alternatives to eat which are low in fat."

She says her organic farm produces low-fat products, which may help reduce the risk of breast cancer.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

"This makes no sense at all..."

by Joe O'Neill

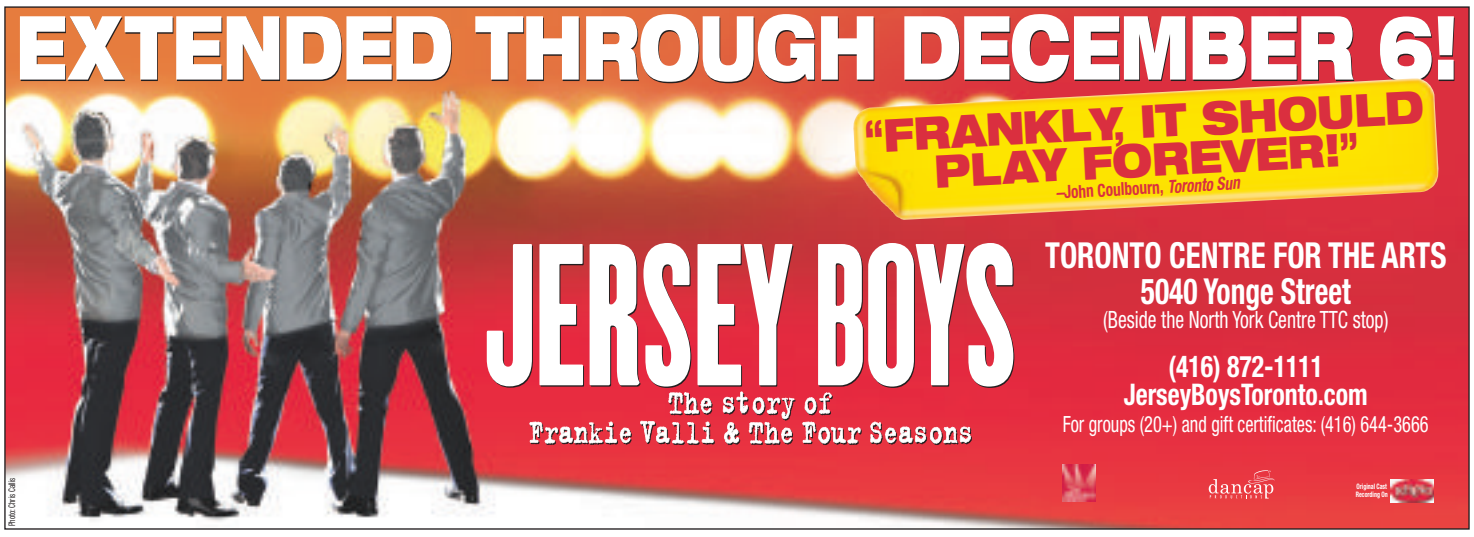
One of the more inspiring ongoing sagas of modern times is the valiant struggle of ex-Spice Girl **Geri Halliwell** to remain somewhat relevant. The latest news finds the utterly talent-deprived gorgon in the news for, uh, maybe wanting to have a baby with her kind-of boyfriend who's also a good dancer.

OK, Geri, I get that you think this **"Flipz"** guy will make a great parent because he "bonds" so well with the unfortunately named child you already had with old Whathisnamewhocares, but maybe you and the Flipster should start with something that isn't a living, breathing, human being as a token of how much you sort of dig each other. Like, say, buttock tattoos of one another's names rendered in Chinese characters.

What's that you say? Tattoos aren't quite the "icing on the cake" that a baby is?

Well, you've got me there, but I tend to think you'd be better off actually being physically ground into a granular paste, spread on a bunt cake, and eaten by **Hannibal Lecter**, than being the child of any parent egocentric enough to speak of you as icing on her cake. Especially if her name is Geri and she makes you listen to her old CDs.

NEWSDESK@METRONEWS.CA



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Today Partly cloudy 12°/ 4°
Tuesday Sunny 14° / 8°
Wednesday Mainly sunny 17°/ 11°
GIVES NEW MEANING TO "NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH."
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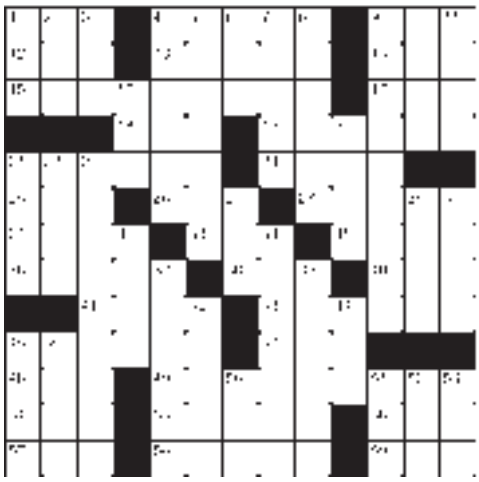
Take Five



Crossword across

1 Fizzle
4 Senior moments?
9 Earl Grey, e.g.
12 Swiss canton
13 Pass the baton
14 Peruke
15 Stand-up comic's repertoire
17 Raw rock
18 Peron or Gabor
19 Puts into words
21 Honour
24 Half (Pref.)
25 "Go, team!"
26 Roman X
28 Impersonate
31 Occupant of a pink nursery
33 Pooch
35 Carthaginian queen
36 Slumber
38 Vacillate
40 "Smoking or —?"
41 Dumbo's "wings"
43 Ungracefully tall and thin
45 Marionette
47 Movie-cataloguing org.
48 Rd.
49 Poker player's bluff
54 Meadow
55 Golfer Palmer, to fans
56 Schuss
57 Consume
58 Frankfurter side dish
59 Storm center

Crossword down

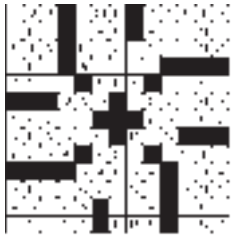
1 Pair
2 Samovar
3 Conk out
4 Hedge shrub
5 Changed the title
6 Bullring bravo
7 Swampy area
8 Method
9 Being unfaithful to
10 Leprechauns' land
11 Quite some time
16 Sheltered side
20 Surrounded by
21 Work units
22 Take to the lake
23 Win after win after win
27 Present
29 Pedestal occupant
30 Rabbit
32 Bound
34 First man in space
37 Quick-to-build house
39 Blunders
42 Mall unit
44 Zero
45 Ashen
46 Layer of 59-Across
50 Italian article
51 Work with
52 Firmament
53 Waste no time

Sudoku

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

	4		1	3	2		9	
3								8
		2				6		
9	8		2		7		6	1
				4				
4	5		9		8		3	2
		1				9		
5								6
	6		8	7	5		1	

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

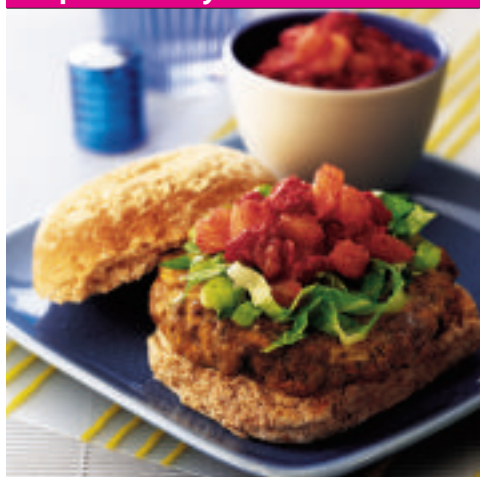


3	1	2	4	5	8	9	7	6
6	7	4	3	2	9	8	5	1
8	5	9	1	7	6	4	2	3
1	6	8	2	4	5	7	3	9
5	2	7	9	6	3	1	8	4
9	4	3	7	8	1	2	6	5
2	3	5	8	9	4	6	1	7
7	9	1	6	3	2	5	4	8
4	8	6	5	1	7	3	9	2

Find today's answers + play more games at metronews.ca

SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:
Under 13 min .....Genius
13-17 min.....Scholar
17-21 min .....Smart
21-25 min.....Not bad
25+ min.....Keep practising

Recipe of the day



Lamb burgers with fruit relish

INGREDIENTS:
1 lb (500 g) lean ground lamb
1 medium carrot, peeled and grated
1 small onion, finely chopped
1/2 cup (125 mL) fresh whole-wheat bread crumbs
Pinch of freshly grated nutmeg
2 tsp (10 mL) fresh thyme leaves or 1 tsp (5 mL) dried thyme
1 large egg, beaten
2 tsp (10 mL) olive oil
4 whole-wheat English muffins
Salt and pepper
Shredded lettuce to garnish

RELISH:
1 orange
1/2 cup (125 mL) fresh or thawed frozen raspberries
2 tsp (10 mL) sugar

METHOD:
1. Preheat barbecue or oven broiler. Put lamb into large bowl. Add carrot, onion, bread crumbs, nutmeg and thyme, and season with salt and pepper. Mix well. Add egg and mix ingredients with your hands.
2. Divide mixture into 4 patties. Brush both sides of burgers with oil, then cook for 4 to 5 minutes per side.
3. For relish, cut peel and pith from orange with a sharp knife, and holding it over a bowl to catch juice, cut between membranes to release segments. Roughly chop segments and add them to juice. Add raspberries and sugar, lightly crushing fruit with fork to mix.
4. Split English muffins and toast lightly. Put a lamb burger on each muffin, add lettuce to garnish and a spoonful of relish. Serve with remaining relish.

rd.ca
For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to rd.ca or check out Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!

Horoscopes

AVATAR VENUS

ARIES ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
A persistent suitor rises above difficulties. Disturbing news arrives about misfortune. A daring adventure will be suggested.

TAURUS ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
Manage your talents well to contribute to your future. Crazy-making regulations must be changed. Strong friends are best for what ails you.

GEMINI ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
Think twice before leaping into the unknown. You'll be vindicated by someone who cares. Don't expect to be told what to do.

CANCER ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
If you start a commotion, good ideas will flow. Speak carefully when confronted by a quirky person. Change a relationship with a bad guy.

LEO ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
A frantic guy will become comical. An explanation for poor conduct will be found. A loser is looking for love.

VIRGO ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
Time will tell if the truth has been told. Face your fear to let go of your inhibitions. People will come forward with practical help.

LIBRA ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
Stay at home and have second thoughts. The best policy is to count your blessings and let sleeping dogs lie. An older woman will remind you of a promise.

SCORPIO ♏
OCT 24-NOV 22
A fantasy comes true in a love affair. Turn the other cheek when something said in secret gets back to you. Sympathy will lead to a long chat.

SAGITTARIUS ♐
NOV 23-DEC 21
Meeting a tense friend changes your attitude. Lucid objections will be raised. Accept an offer that bails you out of a bad situation.

CAPRICORN ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
Negative thoughts will inhibit actions. Don't deny past adventures due to fear. Thoughtfulness will touch your heart.

AQUARIUS ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
Give something away to have a happy time. This is the perfect day to heal old wounds. Merriment will cause your concentration to falter.

PISCES ♓
FEB 19-MARCH 20
You'll run into a past love. Secret messages will be received. Common sense is a good alternative to being anxious.

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TICO

This day in history

OCT. 6, 1582: Due to the implementation of the Gregorian calendar, this day is skipped in Italy, Poland, Portugal and Spain.
OCT. 6, 1600: Jacopo Peri's Euridice, the earliest surviving opera, premieres in Florence, signifying the beginning of the Baroque Period.
OCT. 6, 1683: William Penn brings 13 German immigrant families to the colony of Pennsylvania, marking the first German people to immigrate to America.
OCT. 6, 1908: Austria annexes Bosnia and Herzegovina.
OCT. 6, 1966: LSD is declared illegal in the United States.
OCT. 6, 2000: Yugoslav president Slobodan Milošević resigns.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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